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The Highlander

Thursday Oct 16 2025 | Issue 711

INSIDE: DR. NORM BOTTUM WINDING DOWN PAGE 11 FREE

Dr. Bill Kerr says the decision to close the VDO clinic is "bittersweet." *Photo by Lisa Gervais.*

Smiles as VDO calls it a day

By Lisa Gervais

After seeing more than 1,300 patients from the Highlands, and doing in excess of $4.7 million worth of free dentistry since May 19, 2011, Volunteer Dental Outreach (VDO) has closed its clinic in Haliburton.

The charity confirmed on Oct. 12 that it had shuttered its doors. The board of directors made the voluntary decision at their Sept. 25 regular board meeting.

The winding down is a direct result of Canada's new Dental Care Plan, in which low-income residents now have access to dentistry.

The board said the plan, "is a milestone that the VDO celebrates as a major win for dental access for those in need, which had always remained the goal of this important charity. This marks the end of an exceptional chapter in Haliburton County's healthcare history."

Co-founder Dr. Bill Kerr said they saw an initial drop of about 20 per cent of patients last year, when seniors 65 years old and up were covered under the plan. Over the

Continued **'Celebration'** on page 6

Dysart to raise money to develop land

By Mike Baker

Dysart et al council has committed to funding the first phase of development at its 92-acre property on County Road 21 (CR21), with mayor Murray Fearrey saying the township intends to launch a $3 million community bonds program to pay for it.

At a special meeting Oct. 7, Paul Wilson, who once owned the parcel and is now consulting for the township, estimated the first phase will cost around $1.55 million.

He said this will cover technical assessments, such as traffic, environmental impact and hydrogeological studies and a stormwater management plan – all documents that County staff told Dysart would be needed to progress an Official Plan amendment, the next step in the process.

Money will also need to be spent developing key infrastructure such as roads, sewers, hydro lines and water wells. Phase one encompasses the front half of the property, closest to CR21, and includes space for a new arena and long-term care facility.

Dysart set aside $100,000 in its 2025 budget to advance the project, but council was told by Wilson last week that it will take significantly more to complete everything the County requires. The township wants to redesignate the land from rural areas and commercial uses to a mixed-use area. It also wants to extend the village boundary to cover the entire 92-acre parcel.

It's been two years since Dysart

Continued **'Plan'** on page 2

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Highlander news

Plan for new recreation centre, long-term care

Continued from page 1

purchased the property for $1.725 million from local realtor Andrew Hodgson, who retained a commercial lot fronting CR21.

"We're going to go out for bonds, try to raise the $3 million to cover the price of the property and the improvement," Fearrey told *The Highlander*. "Places for People did it last year and raised $800,000 in just a few weeks… this way, we don't have to get into more long-term borrowing."

Dysart planner Jeff Iles went through an updated site plan for the land last week – it included space for a public park, commercial space along CR21, a large parcel for a new recreation centre, four lots the township is holding for long-term care, and more than 20 lots for residential use.

Wilson, an Ontario Land Surveyor, was brought on board in January when council asked him to put together a high-level project plan.

Last week, Fearrey said the township is in negotiations with Extendicare to move into the site. In February 2022, Extendicare and the Ontario government announced a new 128-bed facility had been approved for Haliburton County.

Fearrey said he hopes to have a deal with them done by the end of this year, but admitted Extendicare is looking at other sites. Earlier this year, the company said it was "in the process of identifying land to acquire for a new facility… our development team has visited a number of potential parcels of land, and we continue to work closely with municipal officials."

Wilson said the key to landing Extendicare will be proving the township has enough capacity remaining at its sewage treatment plant, pre-expansion, to take them on – which wasn't confirmed – and negotiating a price for the land.

Dysart council has decided to take on the first phase of development at its 92-acre property along County Road 21. *File.*

One of the next steps will be drilling five wells at different locations to ensure the property has a water supply. Wilson said there's a road built spanning half the property, which could connect to Industrial Park Road.

He told council the studies needed will likely cost around $300,000 and should be commissioned immediately. Fearrey confirmed a traffic study has been ordered. On the infrastructure side, he said sewer design is the first step.

Wilson said he'll continue looking after things "for a while" but recommended the township start looking for a project manager. He indicated it could take a year to get all the studies and design work complete. Once done, that would open the second half of the property for development.

"Doing all this prep work now makes the northern portion more saleable. Then whoever buys it can do all the roads, the hydro, sewers," Wilson said. "I think the chances of the municipality doing that second phase are pretty slim."

Fearrey confirmed council wants to sell all future residential lots. The township will retain the land earmarked for a new arena, though the mayor said there's no guarantees it will ever be built.

He wants to see a roundabout installed at the entrance to the property from CR21, rather than traffic lights. The mayor confirmed there are no plans to install sidewalks.

"We hope to get this first phase done, or as much of it as possible, by the end of this term [of council in October]," Fearrey said. "Phase two will be up to the developer that takes this thing on. Those units are all two-acre lots, so whether they put one place in there or something big enough to accommodate six, eight or 10 units, there's space for all kinds of housing there, I think."

The Beer Store not commenting on future of Haliburton location

The Beer Store said this week that its Haliburton location at 15 Hops Drive is open for business – but would not comment on speculation it is slated for closure.

Vice president retail, Ozzie Ahmed, said "the Haliburton Beer Store location is open for business. Out of respect for customers and staff, we do not comment or speculate about future changes to our retail network. If a decision is made to close a store, out of respect, the first people to know are our employees."

Ahmed acknowledged, "The Beer Store made the difficult decision to close some retail locations in 2025 while keeping to the requirements of the early implementation agreement with a minimum of 300 stores open until Dec. 30, 2025."

For more on retail hours and open locations, visit https://www.thebeerstore.ca/locations. *(Lisa Gervais)*

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- View our proof of insurance certificate on our website or Facebook page

Tourism department says 'quite a good summer'

By Lisa Gervais

While they have no statistics yet, the County of Haliburton's tourism department says it was "quite a good summer" for industry businesses and operators.

Manager of tourism, Angelica Ingram, gave her third quarter report to councillors last Wednesday.

She told them her department had done a lot of marketing in 2025, especially in the spring and summer.

"A lot of the data we were seeing was showing there were some real shifts in travel this year with the political climate …there was a lot of appetite and desire for Canadians to stay in Canada and from other travellers from other countries looking at Canada as a new option for travel, so we wanted to take advantage of that."

Without getting into specifics, she was referencing how some Canadians, and residents of other countries, are avoiding travelling to the U.S. under president Donald Trump.

"We did a lot of marketing to Canadians, to some new markets, and we're starting to see some results of that. We think it was quite a good summer in terms of business and travellers to the area. We don't have hard data yet, but anecdotally we have heard some very good things from a lot of our tourism businesses and operators and we're hoping this continues throughout the fall and winter and into next year," Ingram said.

She added they had more hits on the My Haliburton Highlands website. In July, the website reached 36,200 views, and in August, 35,300, an increase of 31.5 per cent over the same months last year.

While the growth was partly driven by the integration of the Hike Haliburton Festival into the site, which generated more than 3,100 page views, Ingram said that, even without the addition, traffic rose by 19.2 per cent.

"Google Analytics shows 18,000 active users in August, with 17,000 of those being new visitors."

The most visited pages highlight what attracts visitors to the region, with the Home page, What's Happening, Hike Haliburton, Hiking Trails, and Live Entertainment leading in views.

"Traffic sources also show that the site is reaching beyond the County, with the majority of users coming from organic Google searches (12,000 sessions), followed by direct visits (7,600), County of Haliburton referrals (1,000), and social media (Facebook referrals at 451).

"These results confirm that the website is performing as a central tourism tool, both engaging new audiences and directing them to key seasonal experiences in the Haliburton Highlands."

Looking ahead to 2026, staff are already working on furthering the marketing strategy by creating a campaign that promotes shoulder season tourism, as well as looking at ways to improve the functionality of the website.

Participants in this year's Hike Haliburton Festival. *File.*

Ingram added they are working with a lot of different partners into next year, including hosting some workshops with the Haliburton County Development Corporation, and some cross promotion with different cultural institutions in the area, on some new ideas for next year.

The manager of tourism told council her department was also "really thrilled with how our fall Hike Haliburton Festival, Sept. 18-21, went. We were able to grow the festival with a grant we got and through some additional planning and organizing that Eric (Casper) and I and the team did." They got a $25,000 grant from the federal government. She said they had more than 1,870 participants, in 44 guided hikes. Further, more than 85 volunteers leant a hand.

Another highlight was the annual business summit Sept. 23, for which Ingram reported, "we had a good turnout of speakers and participants and we got some good feedback on how we can evolve that event going forward next year and we're hoping to continue that as well." She noted 40 people attended.

Highlander news

MINDEN HILLS NEWS

Ice storm costs

The Township of Minden Hills has calculated it incurred $407,884.99 in incremental costs due to the spring ice storm.

The number was tabled at a Sept. 25 council meeting.

The province has created a municipal ice storm assistance program. It will pay 75 per cent of costs up to three per cent of the municipaliy's tax levy, or 95 per cent for costs exceeding three per cent.

CAO Cynthia Fletcher said the township has the potential to recoup $317,016.05 under the fund.

She added the remaining $90,868.94 in incremental costs will be funded from the 2025 surplus.

At the meeting, council gave her the go-ahead to apply under the program.

Remembrance crosswalk

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 636 member Dick Schell made a delegation to Minden Hills council's Oct. 9 meeting, seeking help for a Remembrance crosswalk.

Schell said they would like it in place for 2026.

It is essentially a red and white crosshatch with Lest We Forget in words and an image of a soldier. The legion would like it to go from the intersection at the CIBC building across Bobcaygeon Road to UpRiver Trading.

Schell said it's called a commemorative crosswalk and there are ones in Bradford, Petawawa, Peterborough, Sudbury, and Midland.

He was seeking council's concurrence, and help with the name of the contractor that does their line painting, but said the Legion would pay for it.

Schell said it was a "worthwhile" project and he would take it back to Legion members for approval, upon council giving him the green light.

They did, with Coun. Pam Sayne saying, "congratulations on doing this" and mayor Bob Carter adding it was indeed "a worthy cause, and something that would add to the downtown of the village."

The Dawson Hamilton outdoor rink will return to the cultural centre grounds for the 2025-26 winter season. *File.*

Outdoor rink moving

The Dawson Hamilton outdoor rink will return to the cultural centre grounds for the 2025-26 winter season.

Minden Hills staff had moved it to the baseball diamond, behind the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena, last winter; as it was closer to a water supply. However, director of community services, Candace McGuigan said, "the feedback on the new location from the community (and) the large volume of snowfall did not make the ball diamond a viable location."

It's going back to the cultural centre, with McGuigan saying staff have re-evaluated the water supply and earlier preparation of the tarp and boards in anticipation of colder weather to resolve previous issues with setup.

While her department and the Minden Hills fire department work together to create the rink every year, McGuigan said they are looking for community volunteers to assist in maintaining it for the season.

(Minden Hills news compiled by Lisa Gervais)

Township of Algonquin Highlands

NOTICE
SPECIAL MEETING

TAKE NOTICE that there will be a Special Meeting of Council on **Thursday, October 30, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.**

The purpose of the meeting is for Council and staff to participate in an engagement session with BA Consulting Group to assist with the creation of a Parking Plan for the Township.

The meeting will be held in the Council Chambers located at 1123 North Shore Road, Algonquin Highlands.

Members of the Public may also observe the Council meeting by joining a live-stream link. The live-stream link can be found on the meeting Agenda at https://algonquinhighlands.civicweb.net/portal/

Dated this 15th day of October 2025.

Dawn Newhook, Clerk/Deputy CAO
Township of Algonquin Highlands 1123
North Shore Road,
Algonquin Highlands, ON K0M 1S0
Tel: (705) 489-2379 ext. 333
dnewhook@algonquinhighlands.ca

Township of Algonquin Highlands

PUBLIC MEETING

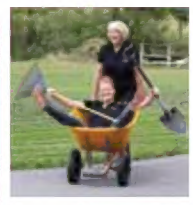
Proposed Change of Building Permit Fees

TAKE NOTICE pursuant to Section 7(1) of the Ontario Building Code Act, 1992 empowers Council to pass certain by-laws respecting construction, demolition, change of use, permits, fees and inspections.

Pursuant to Section 7(6) of the Ontario Building Code Act, 1992, The Council of the Corporation of the Township of Algonquin Highlands will be holding a **Public Meeting on November 6, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.** in the Council Chambers at 1123 North Shore Road, Algonquin Highlands, Ontario, to consider fee changes to the Building Fees. Information will be provided at the meeting on the estimated costs of enforcing and administering the Building Code Act, the amount of the proposed fee(s) and the rationale for changing and/or imposing fees.

ANY PERSON may attend the meeting, and/or submit in writing, in support of or objection to the proposed fees setting out the objection to the By-law and the reasons of the objection. Additional information relating to proposed fee changes is available by contacting the **Greg Moore, CBO during regular offices hours (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) at 705-489-2379 ext. 330 or emailing gmoore@algonquinhighlands.ca**
Dated this 15th day of October, 2025.

Dawn Newhook, Clerk/Deputy CAO
1123 North Shore Road
Algonquin Highlands, Ontario K0M 1S0
Tel: (705) 489-2379 ext. 333
dnewhook@algonquinhighlands.ca



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Highlander news

Granite Shores comes back to council

By Lisa Gervais

Highlands East residents, and organizations such as the Paudash Lake Conservation Association (PLCA) and the Crowe Valley Conservation Authority, have reiterated their concerns about the Granite Shores development on Centre Lake – even though the proponent has made more changes to its original plans.

Highlands East held a public meeting Oct. 7 on a proposed official plan and zoning bylaw amendment.

Municipal planner Chris Jones said Granite Shores wants to build a subdivision on 115 hectares of the 431 hectares owned. The land abuts a 200-foot Crown Reserve, with the first 66-feet an original shore road allowance established prior to the reserve.

The shoreline has been arguably the most contentious issue to date. Highlands East council did not support the disposition of the Crown Reserve in 2021. It also voted not to close and convey an unopened road allowance in 2024.

Jones said the revised plan calls for 18 lots, and two island lots, for detached dwellings; 13 backlots for detached dwellings; four open space blocks; a block for commercial use on Hwy. 118 and a common private road.

He said the policy exemption being sought, in part, "would acknowledge public ownership of the Crown Reserve and shore road allowance, and the right for the public to continue passive recreational use of the shoreline." The rezoning would be to open space for recreation, and shoreline residential. Further, natural features and recommended buffers would be used for environmental protection.

Ritee Haider, a planner at Arcadis, said they had heard concerns since 2021 about loss of public land, impact on the environment, the scale of the development, appropriate servicing and health impacts. She said they had made changes, with more refinement to come. For example, they removed a wellness centre and 60 hotel suites.

Above: Hikers overlooking Centre Lake in Highlands East. Inset: A map of the proposed Granite Shores development. *File.*

She said they are now looking at up to 33 seasonal cottages, with the Crown Reserve and shore road allowance not included. "It's still accessible to the public …" She said the cottages would be pushed back from the shoreline, have their own septic and wells, and there would be public hiking trails and lake access. She added they would have commercial development and a condo road would be maintained by a condo corporation. She said technical studies found the plan "was environmentally feasible" provided mitigation measures were followed, such as setbacks from wetlands and minimal tree removal. She added they believe the lake has enough capacity and found no significant highway traffic impacts.

"Centre Lake will continue to be used as it is today, whether it be for boating, fishing, kayaking or paddleboarding, That will not change." She further said they would provide an additional and safer public boat launch and campers would not see the cottages.

"In our opinion, the revised proposal conforms to the relevant planning documents, it supports tourism while protecting significant natural features on the property, conforms to the County of Haliburton official plan, and meets the intent of the Township of Highlands East's official plan."

Deputy mayor Cec Ryall asked, "is there any way to restrict access from those cottages to the lake directly or will they be able to put trails and boats in?"

The proponent said lots would be adjacent to Crown Land, which is open to the public, including cottagers. However, there would be minimal tree removal for trails and no docks.

Ryall responded, "If someone was to go deeper into that 200-foot with development, how are we going to ensure that gets resolved, if not stopped?"

A number of people spoke out against the project, and a petition was tabled.

PLCA concerns

Mike Thomas of the Paudash Lake Conservation Association touched on most of the concerns.

"While the new application does not contain the 60-unit condo resort building or the 200 ft. wide Centre Lake Crown shoreline reserve, we continue to have concerns about the future implications of the development as well as its current impact," he said.

He suggested Highlands East or the County assume ownership or management of the reserve from the MNRF to maintain public lake access, or support a First Nation doing so.

People are also worried that another developer has applied to purchase the public Crown reserve on the other side of the lake to build 35-40 cottage lots.

The PLCA wants to ensure the public can still camp; they'd like fencing between the private lots and public reserve, with gates to access the shoreline; they feel the proponent is overstating economic benefits; uncertainty over the use of the unopened municipal road allowance; the type of ownership and seasonal use of the cottages is unclear; the impact on municipal infrastructure; radon gas; and the need to monitor lake health.

Neither Highlands East council or the County of Haliburton has made a decision on the file.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY DIAL 911 • AFTER-HOURS MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY DIAL 1-866-856-3247 • WWW.MINDENHILLS.CA

MINDEN HILLS CULTURAL CENTRE

• *Haycock: One Family's Canvas of Canada* will be on display in the Agnes Jamieson Gallery until Saturday, November 15.

• A screening of *A Return to Memory* (2024) on Thursday, October 9 at 1:00 p.m. This documentary explores the contributions of women who helped shape Canadian cinema during World War II through the stories of pioneering filmmakers. Presented in partnership with the Haliburton County Public Library and NFB.

• The Minden Hills Museum and Heritage Village and Nature's Place will close for the season on Saturday, October 11.

COUNCIL MEETINGS VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted in-person (Council Chambers, 7 Milne St., Minden) and with electronic participation. The scheduled upcoming meetings are:

• October 9 – Regular Council Meeting

• October 30 – Regular Council Meeting

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by attending in-person or via the live-stream link.

A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

• Volunteers needed to assist with the outdoor rink at the Cultural Centre. Please contact John Daignault at 705-286-1936 ext 550 or email at jdaignault@mindenhills.ca.

• Thank you to the Minden Horticultural Society for all their efforts with the gardens throughout Minden Hills!

• Parks, Trails and Boat Launches will not be maintained starting Friday October 24.

A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

This year's Fire Prevention Week (October 5-11) is focused on Lithium-Ion Battery Safety.

• Use only the charger and battery recommended by the device manufacturer.

• If a battery is swollen, leaking, overheating, or smells strange, stop using it immediately.

• Never charge devices while sleeping or unattended.

• Store and charge e-bikes, scooters, and hoverboards away from exits — a fire could block your way out.

HOLIDAY CLOSURE

The following Township of Minden Hills offices will be closed on Monday, October 13, 2025, to celebrate the Thanksgiving.

• Municipal Administration Office (7 Milne St.)

• Fire Hall Administration Office (12418 Hwy. 35)

• Minden Hills Cultural Centre (176 Bobcaygeon Rd.)

• SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena (55 Parkside St.)

All waste disposal sites will be open on and will operate on Sunday hours.

Our offices and facilities will resume regular hours on Tuesday, October 14, 2025.

BID OPPORTUNITY

The Township of Minden Hills currently has the following tender available:

• RFP BB-25-002 For the Provision of a Prefabricated Building for the Lochlin Community Centre Site (submission deadline October 21, 2025, at 12:00 PM).

See Bid Opportunities on our website for more information.

7 Milne Street, PO Box 359, Minden, ON, K0M 2K0 | Phone: 705-286-1260 · Toll Free 1-844-277-1260 · Fax: 705-286-4917

@Township.Minden.Hills Minden Hills@twpmindenhills @Township_MindenHills

Highlander news

A MESSAGE FROM
Haliburton Highlands CHAMBER of COMMERCE

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW for the COMMUNITY & BUSINESS ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS & GALA

October 24, 2025
5:00 pm @
The Haliburton Legion

Buy your tickets for the elegant and exciting night out in Haliburton County Today

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or via email
ed@haliburtonchamber.com

Haliburton Highlands CHAMBER of COMMERCE

No help yet for rec ratepayers

By Mike Baker

Algonquin Highlands council has opted against offering township residents a discount on parks, recreation and trails user and rental fees for now, though will be approaching Lake of Bays about contributing funds towards the operation of the Dorset Rec Centre.

At an Oct. 2 meeting, parks, recreation and trails manager Chris Card brought forward a recommendation that the township apply a 20 per cent discount to local ratepayers for facility rentals, recreational programming, water trails use, and entry to the Dorset Tower.

He estimated the move would cost the township around $6,800. Factoring in 1.9 per cent inflation, he suggested the township could recoup the money by upping its trails fees 2.3 per cent, canoe rentals 11 per cent for 16-foot boats and 16 per cent for 17-foot boats, Dorset Tower entry by 2.91 per cent, and all recreation programming 8.28 per cent.

Card said ratepayers accounted for two per cent of all trails sales, which includes rates for camping, equipment rentals and ski passes; five per cent of all visits to the Dorset Tower; five per cent of facility rentals; and 30 per cent of all recreational programming.

Mayor Liz Danielsen said, "I think this is too much for too little," noting she didn't support the plan. Deputy mayor Jennifer Dailloux suggested that, since Algonquin Highlands residents had paid for these facilities and services through their property taxes, that they should be given a break. Coun. Sabrina Richards agreed.

Algonquin Highlands has shelved plans to offer a discount to Algonquin Highlands residents looking to use municipal recreation facilities. *File.*

Danielsen said she and CAO, Angie Bird, will meet with Lake of Bays administration to see if they'd be willing to contribute to the facility's running costs.

Danielsen, Barry and coun. Julia Shortreed opted against applying the discount, though talks continued on how the township could cut costs. It was noted Algonquin Highlands manages trail systems in Minden Hills and Lake of Bays, with Richards suggesting those municipalities pay their way.

Card was asked how much events like the Dorset Snowball cost to run – he said he would bring a report on the event's revenues and expenses to a future meeting. He will also bring back another suggestion to implement a ratepayer discount for programming at the Dorset Rec Centre only.

Celebration to be held in the spring

Continued from page 1

summer, after the feds rolled out the plan for all ages in May, Kerr said they were mostly just transferring patients.

"By the end of August, there were only two dentists volunteering and we couldn't fill our days." Kerr saw his last patient Sept. 25, and is now just finishing up one denture case at his own office in Minden.

At the peak of the charity, they had seven dentists, a hygienist, a denturist, and several dental assistants putting in volunteer time.

VDO leases the space from Dysart et al, with the lease up at the end of January. Kerr said when it comes to equipment, they have to get it all appraised and sold at fair market value. They will donate any leftover funds.

Kerr and his late wife, Lisa, established VDO.

"The community really rallied around us. I reached out to Janis Parker, who was on council at the time. The council was very supportive and so many people volunteered and it was just such a huge community project. It was very humbling to have so many people come alongside us in terms of making this thing work."

Kerr added it was "bittersweet. It's been a part of my life for 15 years and Lisa was the backbone in terms of setting the tone and making sure no volunteer's time was wasted and that every dollar donated was stretched to the max. Lisa would have loved the fact that the government finally stepped up and were looking after these people that were disadvantaged. I'm sure she would be so thrilled with how things are going, but she would also be thinking, 'this was our baby'."

Mark Arike and Steve Kerr of Volunteer Dental Outreach (VDO) during a dollars-for-dentures bowl-a-thon. *File.*

Kerr reminisced about the many VDO golf tournaments, concerts by the lake, and bowling tournaments to raise money.

When it comes to wrapping things up, the dentist said the Royal College of Dental Surgeons has strict guidelines around closing a practice and managing records. They have paper charts and X-rays on the computer at VDO that will be moved to Dentistry in the Highlands.

If people want records transferred, they can contact VDO now, up until the end of 2025. Starting in January, they won't be able to because the phone lines will be disconnected. Dentistry in the Highlands has agreed to take on the administrative task of distributing patient dental records to other dental offices with patient's written consent.

Kerr said it will take a full six months to wind down, including voluntarily giving up their charitable status and dissolving the non-profit corporation.

To honour the volunteers, donors, and patients, a celebration event will be held in the spring of 2026. VDO's phone lines will remain open for inquiries for the next few months at 705-457-3111.

Highlander news

Fire department 'in pretty good shape'

By Lisa Gervais

Consultants, the Loomex Group, presented a fire master plan to Minden Hills council Sept. 25 with just eight recommendations. It also contains 24 other initiatives.

The first was that fire chief, Don Kruger, work with members to develop a recruitment and retention program designed to recognize volunteer firefighters.

The second was developing a firefighter health and wellness program, including for mental health.

Third, Loomex suggested the fire chief investigate the possibility of developing a training facility in Minden Hills for practical training. Now, they go to Algonquin Highlands.

Next, it was recommended council provide financial support to the firefighters to maintain their DZ driver's licences to drive fire department vehicles.

Loomex said Kruger should continue to monitor department response and "focus on whether the fire department needs to increase its staffing levels, particularly during regular business hours, weekends, and holidays."

It also encouraged council to continue to properly fund the department for upkeep of the new fire hall.

Another recommendation is that Minden Hills should do a water supply study for the non-hydrant-protected area of the community.

"The study should aim to determine whether it is feasible to install dry hydrants in those locations. The study should also identify the best locations for dry hydrants in the township," the consultant said.

There are eight recommendations in the Minden Hills fire master plan. *File.*

In addition, councillors were told they should continue to use the budgeting process to provide the department with funding it needs to replace fire apparatus and fire service equipment that has reached its life expectancy.

Coun. Pam Sayne said the report was very informative. She liked the recommendation about licences in particular, noting the cost of a DZ licence is very expensive. She also asked what a dry hydrant is. The consultant said it is a pipe put deep into a body of water so it does not freeze and remains in place to be accessed by pumper trucks.

Coun. Tammy McKelvey queried whether they ask for dry hydrants now for large developments. Kruger said they can ask for cisterns to be installed.

Mayor Bob Carter asked about the need for a training facility.

"Did we consider the fact we have four departments in Haliburton County that have mutual aid plans instead of Minden Hills developing this; that one be developed that is shared."

Kruger said there is a facility in Algonquin Highlands used for new recruits. But for weekly training, it's "quite a drive to get there." It means they cannot respond quickly if there is a call in the community while they are away. He added it would allow them to do more live fire training.

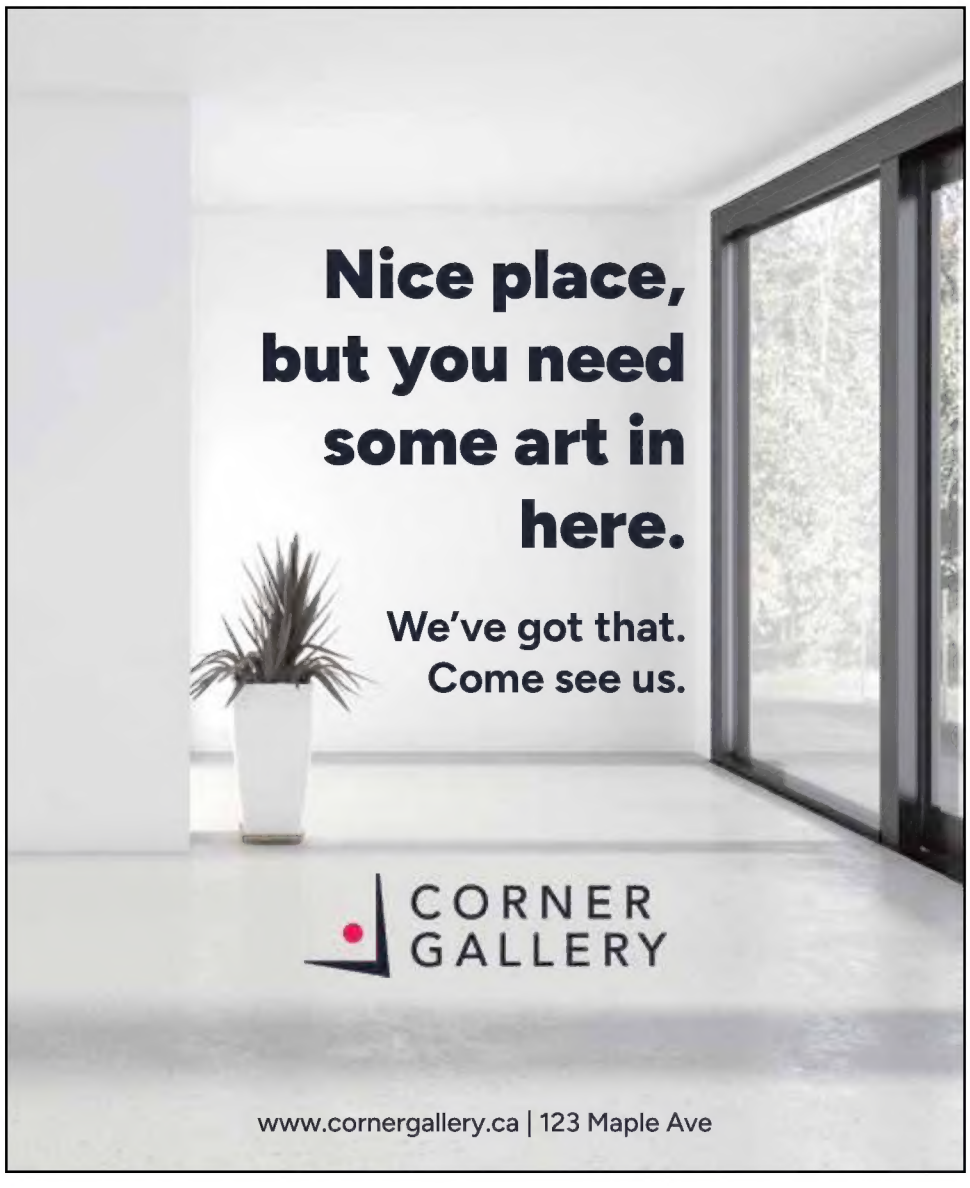
Carter also wanted to know how realistic it was for rural fire departments to do the work suggested in the recommendations and initiatives, such as formalizing handshake agreements about mutual aid. The consultant agreed "the administrative side of it is a nightmare, especially when it's a one or two person show that's doing it."

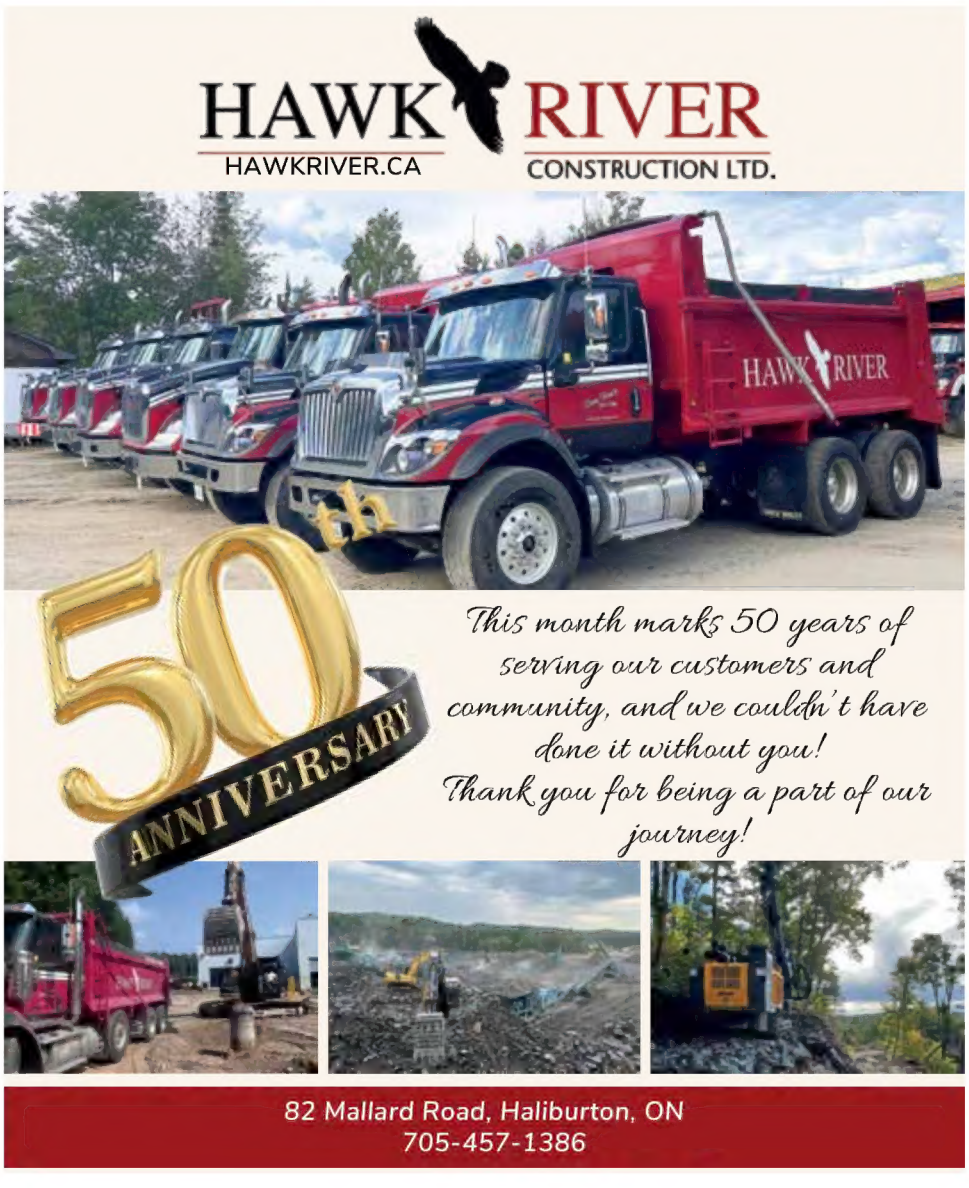
He added it is not uncommon for Loomex to recommend 30, 40 or 50 things, but Minden Hills' fire department "is in pretty good shape comparatively … you really need to support that and build it up."

CAO Cynthia Fletcher asked council to receive the report as information only.

"Every one of these recommendations would almost be mini business cases. If we were to bring them to council, they need to be fleshed out with much more detail."

She added they may partner with other townships on some recommendations and initiatives and would report back quarterly.





Editorial opinion

TheHighlander
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OUR MISSION

To tell the story of Haliburton County each week.

To be a source of information and inspiration through stories and ideas.

To report on issues, people and events important to the community.

To reflect and promote pride in the culture, people and landscape of The Highlands.

To encourage Highlanders to believe in themselves, in our community, and in their power to make our place in the world better every day.

OUR STAFF

PUBLISHER
Laurie Johnson
laurie@thehighlander.ca

EDITORIAL
Lisa Gervais, Editor
editor@thehighlander.ca

Mike Baker, Asst. Editor
mike@thehighlander.ca

SALES
Dawn Poissant
dawn@thehighlander.ca

BUSINESS MANAGER
Glenda Mumford
admin@thehighlander.ca

AD DESIGN | LAYOUT
David Partridge, Designer
production@thehighlander.ca

DISTRIBUTION
Walt Griffin

CONTACT

705-457-2900
123 Maple Avenue, Box 1024
Haliburton, Ontario, K0M 1S0

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Thanks, dental clinic

By Lisa Gervais

Minden dentist Dr. Bill Kerr, and his late wife, Lisa, were headed back from Honduras – where they were doing charitable dental work – when they recognized their volunteer team could actually be doing something in the Highlands too, not just a Central American country.

They worked with the Dysart et al council of the day and launched Volunteer Dental Outreach on May 11, 2011; opening their doors at 739 Mountain St. in Haliburton to fill a need in the County.

From those humble beginnings, VDO has come a long way in the ensuing 15 years - thanks to community support, a team of devoted volunteers and dental professionals, and many generous financial contributions.

VDO remained true to its mission of providing free urgent dental care for low-income residents in the area.

The clinic's volunteers improved the smiles and oral health of more than 1,300 patients, totalling more than $4.7 million in free dentistry as of Sept. 25 this year.

For many, the transformations have been life-changing, giving them the confidence to pursue employment opportunities and living without crippling pain.

It was largely through the work of Lisa Kerr that a partnership was established with the Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge District Health Unit to launch the Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program for Haliburton County.

Flash back to last year and the dentistry landscape was forever changed with the rollout of the federal government's Canada Dental Care Plan (CDCP).

When it began to cover low-income seniors, VDO saw its patient load drop about 20 per cent. This past May, when the plan was extended to all ages, numbers plummeted once again.

By the end of August, there were only two dentists volunteering and they couldn't fill the days. A sharp contrast to the peak of seven dentists, a hygienist, a denturist, and several dental assistants.

Kerr, and the clinic, saw their last patient Sept. 25.

That day marked another milestone for VDO – with the board of directors deciding that VDO would close the clinic.

The board, and Kerr, couldn't be happier that the federal government has finally stepped in to fill the void they had been filling for 15 years.

However, it does mark the end of an exceptional chapter in Haliburton County's healthcare history.

The Kerrs may have spurred the idea, but then-councillor Janis Parker championed it. There have been countless dentists and dental professionals who have volunteered their time. There have been volunteer directors on the board. And, the community has gotten behind the fundraisers, whether the annual golf tournaments, concerts by the lake at the Parkers', or Mark Arike's bowling tournaments.

It's the kind of initiative we would like to see more of in our communities. Someone identifies a problem and goes about trying to have it fixed. We are all better for it.

After the charity voluntarily winds down in early 2026, VDO is planning a spring celebration to honour volunteers, donors, and patients.

We'll expect smiles all around for a job well done.

Thanks, VDO.

SAWDUST STORIES

Always respect

By Darren Lum

Respect runs through everything I do in the trades. Respect for others is a given, but respect for the inherent dangers, the tools, and the work itself is something I've grown into since stepping away from the office and onto job sites.

A construction site can be dangerous. Between tools, tripping hazards, elevated platforms, and open joists, there's plenty that can go wrong. It doesn't have to be dangerous, but only if you approach it with the right mindset. Respect keeps things in check.

Then there are tools that demand full attention: nail guns, angle grinders, table saws. They're not just instruments; they're reminders of how little room there is for error.

Coming from the office world where spilled tea in the kitchen was the biggest hazard, these risks feel heavier. The stakes are higher and I feel them every day.

The safety habits I've built over the years still apply: take your time, be methodical, and ask when you don't know. Some advice is better than others, but I take it all in. Like a kid seeing something for the first time, I know pretending helps no one; least of all the people relying on me.

I've also learned to give myself grace. I'm still learning. I'll fumble with tools and make cuts that aren't clean, but I improve with every attempt, whether it's using an angle grinder or shaping drip caps.

Videos and tutorials help, but there's no substitute for time on tools. Job sites are where real learning happens. Repetition, mistakes, and solving problems in real time; that's how it sticks.

Learning usually follows frustration. You knock, wait, knock again, until the door opens. The lessons stick because you've earned them. Any confidence I have isn't fearlessness; it's from sweating through the work.

It helps when coworkers look out for you, offering a heads-up without being asked. I've likely avoided close calls because someone else spoke up.

Asking questions isn't just about safety; it's about clarity. Knowing what's expected means less wasted material and a more confident approach. And confidence matters, especially when you're new.

Respect for myself matters too. At 48, I know learning takes time. Every task deserves focus. Patience is part of that respect. It ensures I'm not just gaining skills, but keeping them.

That same respect extends to the work, the homes we enter, the people I work with, and the employer who gave me this shot.

Some might see my age as a drawback. But what I bring is experience; not in the trade, but in how I work. My father taught me to earn my keep and do things right the first time. That stuck.

I may be nearing retirement, but I'm not past my prime for learning or respecting what's around me: the risks, the people, the process, and my own growth.

That growth only happens when I ask questions of others, and myself.

The five 'Ws' of journalism (who, what, when, where, why) once helped me tell stories. Now, they help me build. Some things never go out of style. Like a well-worn pair of shoes, they give me something solid to stand on and carry me forward.

One step. Several questions. And always respect.

THEHIGHLANDER.CA

Taking a chance to try something new

By Lisa Gervais

When Highlands Opera Studio (HOS) put out a call for stories based on life in Haliburton County, it piqued Marcia Mandel's interest.

She had tales of Highlands experiences, from being a Hike Haliburton leader, to a sound bath practitioner, and a newspaper columnist.

She applied and was chosen as one of the four creators of short operas that will be staged Oct. 18 at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion in Haliburton.

'Let's Make an Opera' is a grassroots production designed to encourage participation in local theatre.

Mandel said her script, or libretto in opera-speak, is about a single mother turning 50 who is looking for something different. She sees an ad in the paper for Hike Haliburton leaders and offers a walk called Crane Lake Cleanse, also the name of the opera. With only 20 minutes to tell the tale, it starts in her kitchen with her son, then quickly shifts to the start of the hike. She is met with people who have come because other hikes have filled, or wives have forced husbands. And, it's raining.

"Somehow, even with all of that, I was able to keep myself grounded and take these people on my hike, and it all comes from that," Mandel says, adding the sound bath

Workshopping *Two Shots at the Working Beaver*. *Photo by Steven Sherwood.*

element is also woven into the opera. She plays guitar and other instruments.

Learning at Ryerson University years ago that she could write, and having studied screenwriting, the musician said it all came together with this project.

HOS co-artistic director Valerie Kuinka said this Saturday night is a culmination of a "daring" new year-long project, which was supported through a $97,400 grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

"We wanted to encourage people who were not familiar with opera to dispel the preconceptions and take a chance to try something new," Kuinka said. "All opera is, is stories supported by music and theatre. So, we brought the entire process of creating an opera front and centre to people in Haliburton County."

Earlier this year, Kuinka gathered stories from the public that feature the Highlands, whether from people who live here or were born here.

Workshops began in April, focusing on setting the selected stories to a musical background. Each piece is about 20 minutes long and boasts its own dedicated team. Regular meetings were held virtually through spring and summer, with a second workshop in August – with all components coming together for a series of rehearsals.

Kuinka said the idea was to create a heartwarming production for the community, from the community. After its 'pay what you can' singing programs, Kuinka sees this as another way of giving back – and allowing people to peek behind the curtain.

"This is about the people of Haliburton County owning their story. Opera does not have to be professional singers in a big theatre with a full orchestra in a major city. In fact, it's much more exciting creatively working with smaller operas – this is what we would like to share at home in Haliburton," she said.

The other operas are: *Two Shots at the Working Beaver* (written by Veronica Beynon, with Bill Gliddon the composer and musical director); *Desmond and Lois* (by Meghan Mardus with Melissa Stephens and Lauren Margison) and *Women at the End of the Line* (by Janet Trull, with Richard Charles, Stephens and Kuinka).

Tickets for the 7:30 to 10 p.m. performance are available through the HOS website.

Film festival shares stories of overcoming adversity

By Lisa Gervais

Those Other Movies has announced this year's Haliburton International Film Festival (HIFF) lineup for Nov. 7-9 at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion in Haliburton, as well as Highlands Cinemas in Kinmount.

Spokesperson Tammy Rea said after watching more than 50 films at the Toronto International Film Festival and Sudbury's Cinefest, the committee is excited about the bill coming to Haliburton County.

"The films in this year's lineup tell epic tales and small stories about overcoming adversity and persevering against all odds, with jazz scores flowing through many of our films. Many of the films find ways to make us laugh even while portraying challenges," Rea said.

She added they will be showing seven films; opening the festival with Guillermo del Toro's *Frankenstein* at the iconic Highlands Cinemas.

"We are excited about a local connection to this film that we'll be announcing closer to show time. All other films on Saturday and Sunday will be shown at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavillion, four movies on Saturday and two on Sunday," Rea added.

Here is the lineup:

• Friday, Nov. 7 at Highlands Cinemas 2 and 7 p.m. *Frankenstein* with special guests.

• Saturday, Nov. 8 at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavillion**:** 10 a.m. *Little Lorraine***;** 1 p.m. *Once Upon My Mother***;** 3:30 p.m. *DJ Ahmet*; 7:30 p.m. *Youngblood* with special guests.

• Sunday, Nov. 9 at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavillion: 10 a.m. *There's Still Tomorrow* and 1 p.m. *Köln 75***.**

Rea said Oscar-winning director del Toro adapts Mary Shelley's classic tale of Victor Frankenstein, a brilliant but egotistical scientist who brings a creature to life in a monstrous experiment that ultimately leads to the undoing of both the creator and his tragic creation. "This multi-layered story has a Haliburton connection," she teased.

She said *Little Lorraine* is about the aftermath of a mine disaster in a small North Atlantic seaside town.

Once Upon My Mother tells the story of a woman whose baby is born with a clubfoot in 1963.

DJ Ahmet is about a 15-year-old boy from a remote Yuruk village in northern Macedonia. His mute brother finds solace in music while navigating grief over their mother and a controlling father.

Youngblood follows Dean Youngblood, a hockey prodigy who joins the Hamilton Bulldogs and has to deal with toxic behavior during his journey to the National Hockey League draft. It's a remake with a different approach from the 1986 film of the same name.

There's Still Tomorrow is set in post-war Rome, where a working-class woman dreams of a better future for herself and her daughter while facing abuse at the hands of her domineering husband.

Finally, Köln 75 follows 18-year-old Vera Brandes as she defies her conservative parents to organize a Keith Jarrett concert in Cologne, Germany in 1975.

Rea added they have a new projector and audio system for this year's festival to improve the viewing experience. Weekend VIP passes are $65 ($60 for season's pass holders) and are available at https://www.thoseothermovies.com/ or cash at the door. Tickets for individual films are $10 at the door. Single tickets for *Frankenstein* will be sold in advance - available through committee members, or online from their website.

Highlander arts

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Participants at last year's winter folk camp. *Photo by Lisa Gervais.*

Making connections

By Lisa Gervais

The Haliburton County Folk Society (HCFS) recently announced they will be receiving a grant from the Ontario Arts Council to support some of their live music events in 2025-26.

Shawn Chamberlin, co-chair of HCFS said, "we are thrilled about this recent grant from the Ontario Arts Council. One of the primary objectives of the HCFS is to expand the circle between artists and our audiences, thereby enhancing the overall audience experience and increasing their exposure to artists they might not otherwise encounter. This OAC grant will be a significant asset in achieving this goal."

Funds from the grant will be used to offer artist workshops in conjunction with the HCFS' 2025-26 concert series and enable hiring of out-of-province artists for the annual Winter Folk Camp in 2026.

"The Ontario Arts Council has invested over $5,000 in the Haliburton County Folk Society, through the Ontario Arts Presenters Project, to help connect artists with rural audiences," said Laurie Scott, MPP for Haliburton–Kawartha Lakes–Brock. "This funding will strengthen the society's capacity to deliver accessible, affordable, and engaging music events, including the celebration of the 15th edition of Winter Folk Camp; an inspiring weekend of music, mentorship, and community."

The HCFS has been bringing live music to the Haliburton Highlands since 1996. The concert series lineup includes artists from a range of genres that have blues, folk, Celtic, roots and country influences. Artists on the schedule are Sandra Bouza, Mimi O'Bonsawin, Union Duke, Minor Gold and Jessica Pearson and the East Wind.

Series passes are available online. Winter Folk Camp will take place at YMCA Camp Wanakita March 6-9, 2026. For more information on all HCFS events, visit www.haliburtonfolk.com.

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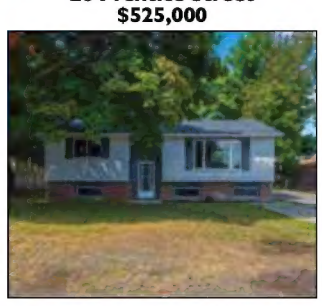

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Ontario

Halls Island Artist Residency reimagining its future

By Lisa Gervais

After seven years of welcoming artists of all disciplines to Koshlong Lake, the Halls Island Artist Residency hosted its final residency guests in September, a spokesperson for the Fraser-Hughes family – which own the island – said.

The residency, located at an off-grid island, "has inspired artists from as far away as upstate New York, British Columbia, and Newfoundland, as well as Haliburton County artists," the spokesperson added.

Since 2019, more than 100 painters, photographers, sculptors, novelists, poets, actors, songwriters and musicians discovered inspiration as they engaged with nature and pursued their creative endeavours in the beautiful setting.

Halls Island is privately-owned by the Fraser-Hughes family, whose generosity provided the residency, accommodations, and island access for the chosen artists. The family said it was enormously grateful for the support of the Haliburton County Community Cooperative and the volunteers who served on the management committee.

"In 2018, we were joined in a vision by the Haliburton County Community Cooperative and several local volunteers to build a program that inspired artists from all over Canada and elsewhere to visit a peaceful refuge on Koshlong Lake. Word quickly spread and each year more and more creative people, duos and groups applied to become part of the Halls Island experience. These artists became alumni of the special and inspiring space that the island offered," the spokesperson said.

"We are now going to take a pause and consult with our former artists in residence and consider reimagining the future of this magical place. It has been an honour and privilege to work with our partners and provide an exceptional experience for so many worthy and creative Friends of Halls Island."

They went on to thank Abbey Gardens, Haliburton County Museum, Haliburton County Public Library, the Arts Council Haliburton Highlands, Haliburton County Development Corporation, TD Ready Fund, Haliburton County Folk Society, YMCA Camp Wanakita, Koshlong Lake supporters, and the volunteer management committee and artist selection committee members.

Dr. Norm Bottum at an advance care planning information day at the Haliburton Legion Oct. 8. *Photo by Lisa Gervais.*

'It's been a fun ride'

By Lisa Gervais

Although Dr. Norm Bottum has retired from family practice as of Sept. 30, Haliburton County residents will continue to see his familiar face for some time to come.

Bottum is transitioning to part-time work, doing sports medicine and being involved with the Metabolic Syndrome Program at the Haliburton Highlands Family Health Team. It helps patients with Metabolic Syndrome and Type 2 diabetes. In addition, Bottum will continue to put in shifts as a coroner. You'll see him at community events too, such as last week's advance care planning information day at the Haliburton Legion.

"My plan is to work two weeks on, and two weeks off, and see where I can fit in. I'm not planning to pick anything up, and hopefully will be slowing down," he said in an Oct. 6 interview with *The Highlander.*

Dr. Mario Lupu is taking on Bottum's patients. "He's been working out beautifully so far," the retiring GP said.

Bottum has been trying to scale back for years. At the age of 55, he gave up doing emergency medicine. At 60, he was looking to cut back further but didn't get a chance due to other doctors retiring.

He noted physician recruitment is difficult, but lauded the County's involvement along with former physician recruiter Cheryl Kennedy and today's Wendy Welch for bringing doctors onboard.

Bottum shares the story of how he and his wife did a road trip in winter to some County cottage hotspots, but there was something about Haliburton that caught their attention.

"Haliburton was a little bit smaller than what I was interested in, to be honest," he recalled. He noted there was no operating room, and he enjoyed assisting in the ER. There was no recreation centre. But there were positives, such as working closely with a smaller group of colleagues.

"We said 'let's give it a whirl and see how it works out'."

There were some tough times, such as being on-call one in four nights, and having to staff the emergency room overnight and still show up for regular patients the next morning – with little to no additional pay. In larger centres, there would have been more staff to share the work.

When he started, mind you, there were six family doctors in Haliburton and six in Minden. Now, there are nine. That excludes strictly emergency department doctors.

"We did both for 25 years. We looked after the show. If there was an issue at the hospital and staffing, we figured out a way to cover it, no Health Force Ontario doctors or supports."

Bottum reminisced on the many changes, from the time of being part of St. Joseph's Hospital in Peterborough to the formation of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services, for which he led medical staff through the transition. He became the first chief of staff of the new entity. It was a busy time with fundraising and construction and a new board of directors. "A lot of energy and passion."

He notes the medical advances as well, such as cardiac care that allows people to return to work a week after a heart attack, and being able to reverse Type 2 diabetes. When he started, it was all about clinical skills, with limited diagnostic equipment, tests and drugs.

"I wish I knew then what I know now. If I had some of those tools, information, tests, and drugs how much better I would have been able to care for my patients. It would have been amazing."

Asked for highs, lows or surreal, Bottum said SARS and then COVID were game-changers. "Just the length of time it went on for. It was exhausting, and the surge afterwards when people became more comfortable coming back into the office."

He thanks his wife, Janet, and family for putting up with everything that comes with family and emergency medicine; missed hockey games, speeches and other activities. He thanked the hundreds of "incredible" staff he has worked with over the years.

"So many wonderful, smart, dedicated people. It's all part of the culture of Haliburton County. Maybe that's why we stuck it out.

"It's been a fun ride."

Junior highlanders

Razzamataz getting silly for 40th year

By Mike Baker

Razzamataz Kids' Shows is holding the line on its pricing for another season in Haliburton County, with four unique performances focusing on "different cultural experiences, exposing kids to things they may not have seen before," said circuit lead, Nicole Stewart.

Celebrating its 40th year in 2025-26, Razzamataz returns to its roots next week, bringing in Toronto-based contemporary dance troupe The Chimera Project for the group's first public show in Haliburton County. They'll perform *Silly Billy* at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion Oct. 26.

Stewart says Razzamataz's volunteer board works with non-profit arts group Ontario Presents to book acts. Also on the agenda is *Somebody Loves You, Mr. Hatch*, a heartwarming puppet play put on by British Columbia's Axis Theatre, visiting Jan. 25; Wee Festival's *The Old Man and the River* March 8; and the musical show *Earth, Seas and Air*, performed by Chris McKhool, on April 12.

"All these shows are going to be really fun, interesting and exciting for children. They're all brand-new productions for our area and are all offering something a little different," Stewart said.

She said the idea is to bring in groups boasting diverse and different cultural backgrounds who can open County kids' eyes to the world that exists outside their community.

Razzamataz Kids' Shows will kick off its new season Oct. 26 with a family-friendly dance theatre show *Silly Billy. Photo submitted.*

Malgorzata Nowacka-May is the lead director of *Silly Billy*, telling *The Highlander* the hour-long production brings western and Indigenous art forms together on-stage. Nimkii Osawamick portrays Billy and will, among other things, showcase his hoop dancing skills, with Emma Curtis performing ballet.

"The show has many layers – it works with very young audiences, but also kids in Grade 6 love it. And parents love it too, as we have many jokes in there just for parents," Nowacka-May said.

"Art offers a unique space for self-reflection through metaphor, image and energy, through stuff that we don't have words for. *Silly Billy* gives that to kids. It's about a creature that suffers because of being different… there's mystery and unexpected things happening, which kids love," she added.

Tickets are $10 for adults and $7 for children – same as the past few years, Stewart said.

She said each performance can cost Razzamataz up to $5,000 to stage. Most of that is recouped through ticket sales, though Stewart said the Haliburton County Development Corporation, CanoeFM, The Arts Council – Haliburton Highlands, Kennisis Lake Cottage Owners' Association, and Haliburton Rotary contributed a combined $6,000 towards this season's costs.

Some of that will be used to stage a free theatre experience for Cardiff and Stuart Baker elementary school students in March. *The Old Man on the River* will have a second showing in Haliburton March 9.

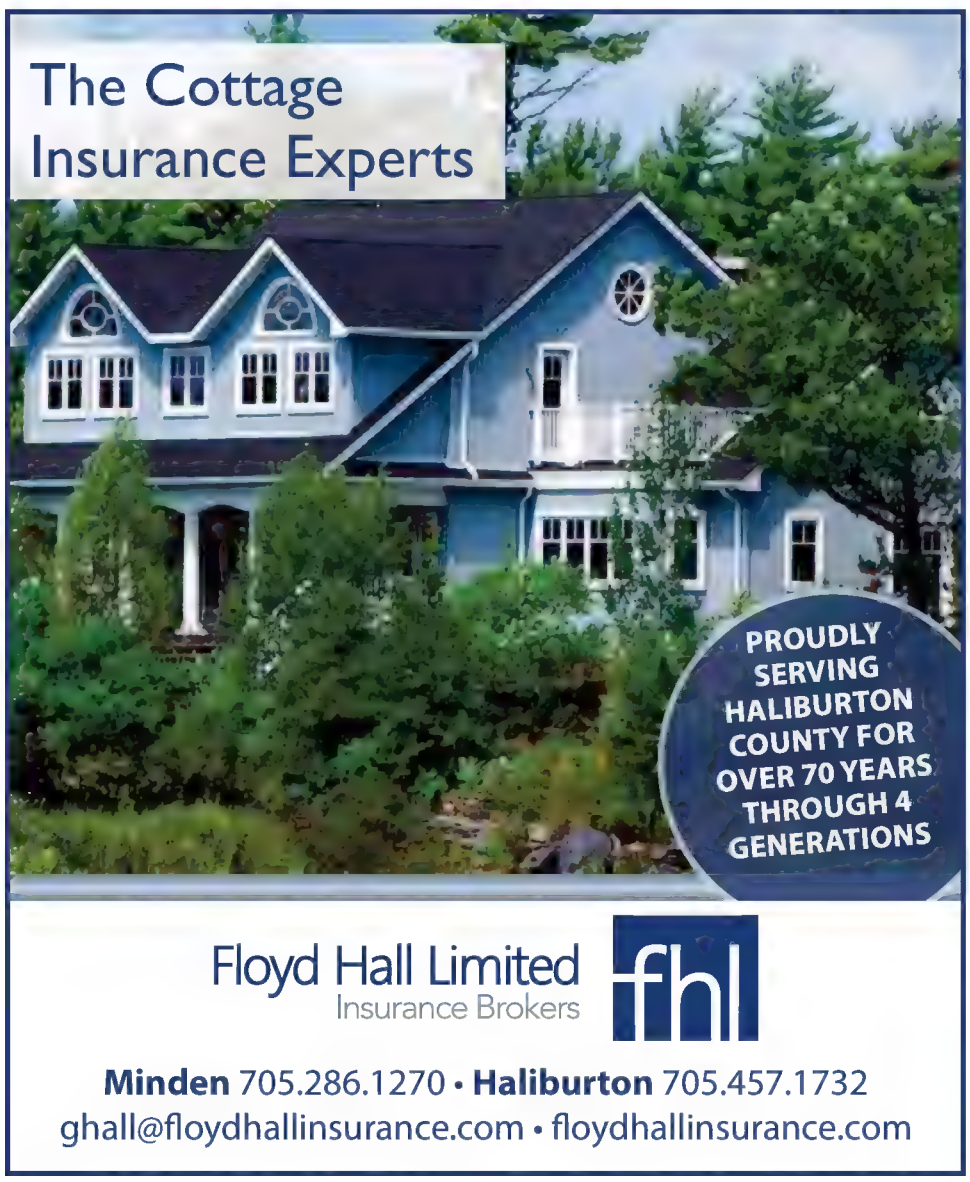
"We did this last year with Bboyizm, a street dancing company who did a public show and then one at J.D. Hodgson the next day. We had such great feedback - the kids were all screaming so loud," Stewart said. "We know schools don't have additional funding to bring in live theatre performances, so this is somewhere we're trying to plug the gap.

"What's so great about this show is that it's designed without words, it's just a puppet on the stage so is suitable for children of all ages and noise sensitivities," she added.

Kids will have the chance to get up close and personal with the performers after the show, with Stewart confirming three follow-up workshops this season – after *Silly Billy* Oct. 26, Somebody Loves You, Mr. Hatch Jan. 25, and *Earth, Seas and Air* April 12. Each workshop can accomodate about 20 kids and costs an additional $8.

Since the pandemic, Stewart says Razzamataz shows have grown from audiences of 50-60 people to more than 120.

"We get people who came to shows when they were kids and, now, they're bringing their kids, or their grandkids," Stewart said.



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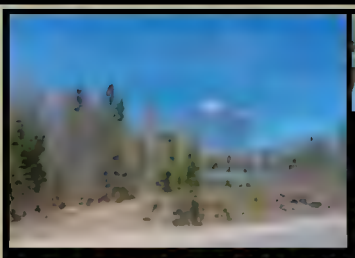

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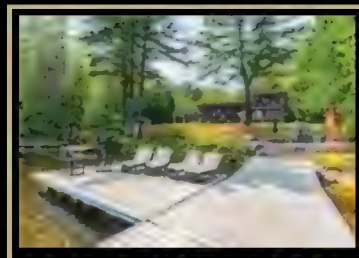
- Yr Rnd Municipal Rd, Hydro At Lot Line
- Natural Setting, Close To Beautiful Lakes

Andy Campbell* (705) 854-0292

Horseshoe Lake $699,000
- 2 Cottages & 1 Cabin
- 145ft of Waterfront, Deep off the Dock
- Western Exposure, Fantastic Sunsets

Gloria Carnochan* & Breann Budel* (705) 754-1932

Redstone Lake $1,790,000
- 3-Bed, 2-Bath, Turnkey & Bright
- 2.5-Acre Point With 550' Water
- 3-Sided Lake Views & Private Trails



Mark Dennys* (705) 457-0473

SOYERS LAKE - $4,249,900
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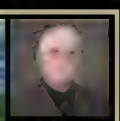
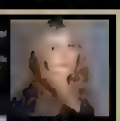


Tom Ecclestone* (705) 754-5101

Gelert Road $499,000
- Affordable Family Home on 1.7acres
- 3 bedrooms and new appliances
- Over Sized Garage, Good Privacy



Lindsay Elder* (705) 457-5878

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Melanie Maxwell-Hevesi**& Andrea Wilson** (705) 854-1000

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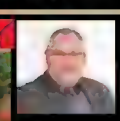
- Minutes To Minden & Amenities



Andrew Hodgson** (705) 854-0130

Minden Condo $465,000
- Main-floor 1-bed + den, 2 baths
- Private outdoor space & garden views
- Steps from shops, cafés & Riverwalk

Susanne James* & Andy Mosher** (705) 457-2128 ext. 133

Access to Miskwabi Lake $419,900
- 4-season cottage w/great privacy
- Steps to access to Miskwabi Lake
- Sand beach and shared dock, Yr Rnd Rd

Karyn Linton Marra* (705) 306-7515

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- Two, 2-Bedroom Artists Homes
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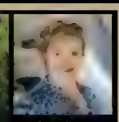

Kathy Martin* (705) 457-7592

Minden Home $695,000
- 3 Beds/2 Bath, 2,100+ SqFt, 3.49 Acres
- Massive Garage/Workshop, Open Cpt
- Private Backyard Pond, 3 Mins to Minden

Ashley McKeigue* (705) 854-1833

Gull Lake Cottage $1,150,000
- 4 Bdrms/2 Bath, 1782 SwFt, 2 Kitchens
- 231' Shoreline, 2 Sandy Beaches
- OPEN HOUSE: Sat, Oct 18 @ 11am-1pm

Brandon Nimigon*** (705) 457-8631

Grace Lake $1,250,000
- 198ft pristine lakefront view
- Open-concept main floor living
- 3-car garage, walkout lower level

Karen Nimigon** (705) 457-6505

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Kelly Kay* (705) 457-6841
Kirsten Rae* (705) 854-1454

Minden Home $399,900
- Updated 2-Bed Home Near Minden
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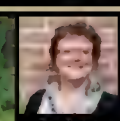

Darlene Reil* (705) 854-2055

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Christine Sharp* (416) 566-1592

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Melanie Vigrass* (705) 754-5494

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Tom Wilkinson** (705) 457-6839
Lindsay Wilkinson* (705) 854-1454

Gull River $924,900
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Junior highlanders

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Committee of Adjustment - Notice of Public Hearing
Application For Minor Variance
Part of Lot 24, Concession 5, Geographic Township of Lutterworth
1192 Tundra Trail- PLMV2025088 (Splett & Novelli)

TAKE NOTICE THAT the Committee of Adjustment of the Township of Minden Hills will hold a Public Hearing on:
DATE: Monday, October 27, 2025
TIME: 9:30 AM
LOCATION: This will be a hybrid meeting. Members of the public may attend either in person or electronically via Zoom. Details are provided below.

The purpose of the Public Meeting will be to consider a proposed Minor Variance **(Application No. PLMV2025088)** to the Township of Minden Hills Zoning By-law pursuant to Section 45 of the Planning Act.

Location of the Subject Lands: Part of Lot 24 Concession 5, Geographic Township of Lutterworth, municipally known as 1192 Tundra Trail (see Key Map on reverse side).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: The purpose of the application is to provide relief from the Township of Minden Hills Zoning By-law 06-10, as amended, to permit a two-storey garage having a ground floor area of 110 square metres (1,189.8 square feet) with a second storey sleeping cabin, to be located 31 metres (101.7 feet) from the highwater mark of Moore Lake. The application will have the effect of providing relief from Section 4.1.6, to permit an accessory building with a mean height of 6.4 metres (21 feet) within 40 metres (131.2 feet) of the highwater mark, whereas a mean height of 3.5 metres (11.5 feet) is required.

To Attend in Person:

Location: Members of the Public wishing to watch the meeting in person can do so by attending the Township Council Chambers, located at 7 Milne Street, Minden.

To Participate: Members of the public wishing to participate and make comment/speak at the public meeting must pre-register by emailing dsisson@mindenhills.ca by Friday, October 24, 2025, before 4:00 PM or by registering the morning of the meeting before 9:00 AM in the Council Chambers.

To Attend Electronically:
To Watch: Members of the Public wishing to watch the meeting can do so by joining the Meeting Live Stream Link: https://www.youtube.com/@townshipofmindenhills4716

The live-stream link provided for each meeting will only be activated while the meeting is in session.

To Participate via Zoom on the Web or by Telephone please email dsisson@mindenhills.ca by Friday, October 24, 2025 before 4:00 PM to obtain login information.

If attending virtually, please log-on 30 minutes before the meeting. Once registered, participants will automatically be placed into a holding room and brought into the meeting as permitted by the Chair. **Participants registering either virtually or in person after 9:00 AM will not be permitted into the public hearing.**

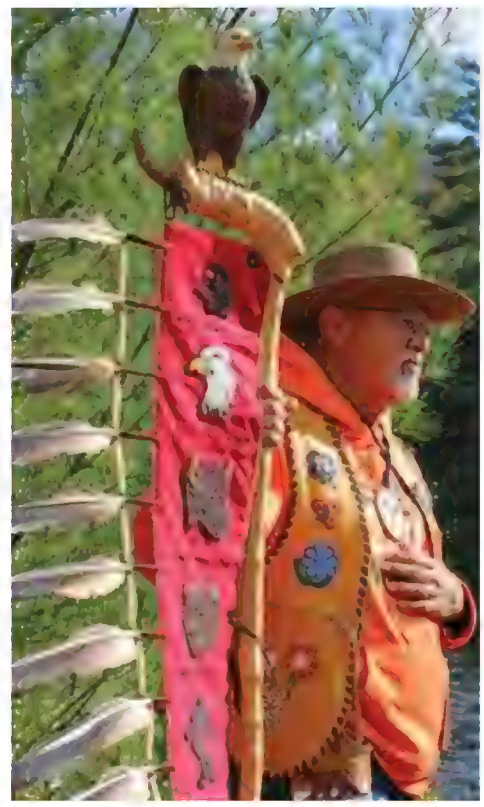
A copy of the complete application will be available for public inspection at the Township of Minden Hills Building and Planning Department by appointment only; additional information will also be available on the Township website.
Input on the above noted application is welcome and encouraged. You can provide your input, either in support or opposition to the proposed minor variance, by making a written submission to the Township or by speaking at the Public Hearing. If you do not attend the Public Hearing, it may proceed in your absence and, except as otherwise provided in the Planning Act, you will not be entitled to any further notice in the proceedings.
To provide input in writing, or to request written notice of the decision, please contact the undersigned or e-mail adougherty@mindenhills.ca.
Any person or agency who is of the opinion that holding the hearing as a hybrid/combined in-person and electronic hearing is likely to cause them significant prejudice, may make a submission to the undersigned, and if the Committee is satisfied that holding the hearing as hybrid is likely to cause the party significant prejudice then the hearing will be re-scheduled as an oral hearing only. If a person or agency does not make a submission to the Secretary-Treasurer prior to the hearing, and the person or agency does not participate in the hearing in accordance with this Notice, then the Committee may proceed without the party's participation and the party will not be entitled to any further notice in the proceeding.

Accessibility: The Township of Minden Hills is committed to providing services as set out in the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005. If you have accessibility needs and require alternative formats or other accommodations, please contact the undersigned.

Privacy Disclosure: As one of the purposes of the Planning Act is to provide for planning processes that are open and accessible, all written submissions, documents, correspondence, e-mails or other communications (including your name and address) form part of the public record and may be disclosed/made available by the Township as deemed appropriate, including anyone requesting such information. Please note that by submitting any of this information, you are providing the Township with your consent to use and disclose this information as part of the planning process.

Amanda Dougherty
Manager of Planning Services
Secretary-Treasurer, Committee of Adjustment
Township of Minden Hills
adougherty@mindenhills.ca
(705) 286-1260 ext. 506
P.O. Box 359, 7 Milne Street, Minden
ON., K0M 2K0

Location Map



Left: Students learn about generating clean power from hydro electric stations. *Photo by Ilona Sutcliffe.* Right: Elder Larry O'Connor shared Indigenous Eagle staff traditions, offering initiation for students' ceremonial connections with water. *Photo by Colin Russell.*

Two decades of soaking in learning

By Lisa Gervais

On Oct. 7-8, more than 800 Grade 4-6 students, with their teachers and parent volunteers, gathered at the Kinark Outdoor Centre to take part in the 20th annual Haliburton-Muskoka-Kawartha Children's Water Festival (HMKCWF).

Students engaged in hands-on fun at 37 activity-based learning stations set up across the site. Elementary schools from across the Trillium Lakelands District School Board and families of local homeschoolers were involved.

HMKCWF coordinator Kara Mitchell said more than 100 volunteers helped children explore the vital connections between water health, ecosystems, and personal and community well-being through motivational experiences.

The festival, a flagship program of the Haliburton-based charity FEEL (Friends of Ecological and Environmental Learning), is organized in partnership with U-Links Centre for Community-Based Research and Kinark. Significant volunteer support came from high school students in the Kawartha Youth Leadership in Sustainability (YLS) program and Trent University students from the School of the Environment.

This year, 12 community partners including the Turtle Guardians, Kawartha Conservation, the Muskoka Watershed Council and the Algonquin Highlands Fire Service enriched the programming through hands-on activities. Mitchell said, "students soaked in messages on water conservation, technology, protection and science and came to understand that their attitudes towards water matters and their actions can and will make a difference."

With a milestone celebrated this year, many of the 90 parent volunteers said they were inspired through their initial attendance as school children.

Mitchell added through the waterheroes.ca website, students can continue their water stewardship journey. Running until the end of April, students can enter the 'big splash' contest by sending in water-friendly actions they pledge to do in the year ahead. Donated prizes will be awarded to individuals, classes and schools making inspiring positive impacts on local water systems through their actions.

Mitchell said the festival was possible thanks to support from a diversity of individual donors, local businesses and service clubs. She added, "FEEL invites local businesses, organizations and individuals to consider donating at any level to keep our impactful programming flowing."

The festival will also recognize volunteers with an event Nov. 1, noon to 3 p.m., at the Highland Hills United Church in Minden.

Mitchell said, "we'll be acknowledging all supporters, including our groundwater volunteers and donors; those who have been consistent supporters for the past decade." She said anyone curious about volunteering is welcome to attend.

FEEL says it is committed to advancing public awareness and appreciation of ecosystems through education. HMKCWF is their flagship program. Since the festival began in 2005, more than 16,000 children have benefited.

More information can be found at hmkchildrenswaterfestival@gmail.com, or www.ecoenvirolearn.org, hmkwaterfestival.ca or www.waterheroes.ca.

LIVING WELL

Haliburton County Master Gardeners is hosting a sustainable gardening workshop for seniors in Minden Oct. 18. *Submitted.*

Have a hand in new Hyland Crest garden

By Mike Baker

Haliburton County Master Gardener (HCMG) Shelley Fellows said a free workshop being held in Minden later this month will teach people new ways to beautify garden spaces at home and throughout the community.

The non-profit group is hosting a hands-on workshop for seniors aged 55 and up on Oct. 18. Beginning with classroom instruction at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre in the morning, attendees will learn about sustainable gardening practices before getting their hands dirty later in the day at Hyland Crest Long-Term Care – where HCMG is planting a new garden.

The project is being supported by a $10,000 seniors community grant through the Ontario government and can accommodate up to 25 people.

"The reason we're doing this as a two-parter is you can learn good things in a classroom setting, but if you really want to remember them and build your skills, then getting some hands-on experience is important," said Fellows, who will be leading instruction.

The training component will focus on how people can adjust their technique to account for physical limitations – ensuring anyone who wants to participate, regardless of condition, can do so.

Fellows will also offer tips on how to properly plant different species – from bulbs to shrubs to flowering perennials. She noted all participants will receive a gift bag containing gardening supplies seniors may find helpful, such as an ergonomic trowel.

"No prior gardening experience or tools are necessary; the program will supply all of the skills development advice and tools needed free of charge," Fellows said.

The workshop begins at noon and includes a light lunch. Fellows expects to wrap things up at Hyland Crest by 3:30.

She noted the new garden will be called 'Betty's Place', in honour of a former Hyland Crest resident who recently passed away. A dedication ceremony will be held at 3:15 p.m.

"We heard Betty's story when we sat down to meet with Hyland Crest staff about this project. She lived there for four years and loved to garden – we all thought this would be a great way to honour her," Fellows said.

The space will feature 150 daffodils, 160 crocus and 80 grape hyacinths, as well as elderberry shrubs, phlox and peonies, cranesbill geraniums, false sunflower, coral bells, astilbes, ladies mantels, brunnera and some hostas and ferns.

Fellows said there will be some native plants featured too, like bleeding heart cardinal flowers, creating a bright, colourful display.

"There's a lot of purples with pops of pink, yellow and red," Fellows said. "Something nice for the residents and visitors there to enjoy."

Pre-registration is required. Anyone interested can sign-up online at haliburtonmastergardener.com or by calling 705-488-2613.

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Alex Rossi goes close for the Huskies in the opening period, dragging the puck across the Pickering netminder and wide in the team's 5-4 loss in Minden Oct. 11. *Photos by Mike Baker.*

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Bowmaster return adds firepower to Huskies

By Mike Baker

The Haliburton County Huskies almost pulled off an unlikely comeback against the Pickering Panthers on home ice Oct. 11, recovering from a four-goal shellacking in the opening frame to run the visitors close in a 5-4 defeat.

All the attention pre-game was on former Huskies captain Patrick Saini, who returned to the Highlands to see his number 75 jersey retired by the organization. The 22-year-old was a franchise cornerstone for years, recording 256 points in 218 games over four seasons.

It was another familiar face who almost stole all the headlines, though. Declan Bowmaster made his season debut for the Huskies, potting twice in the middle frame after rejoining the blue and white following a five-game stint with the Blackfalds Bulldogs in the British Columbia Hockey League.

He joined centreman Nic Ferrante, acquired from the Markham Royals last week, to add some grit and experience to this young Huskies team.

"We're happy to get a player of Declan's calibre back - he's a good kid and is going to help on the offensive side a lot," said coach Jordan Bailey. "Nic is very good in the faceoff circle, a strong penalty killer and great depth piece to help improve our roster."

It was a first-period capitulation for the Huskies on Saturday. They were picked apart for the Panthers first goal – an advancing Charlie Key was found by Joseph Cadorin with only Carter Nadon to beat, with the Pickering forward showing quick hands to make it 1-0 at 4:03.

Carter Fogarty doubled the Panthers advantage at 9:13 and Key made it a three-goal game at 11:12, beating a screened Nadon high with a drive from the blueline. Fogarty made it 4-0 at 14:44 – he and Key each had four points in the first period blitz.

The Huskies did create some openings – Chase Del Colombo was busy at right wing and he got the home side on the board at 16:03 on the powerplay, deking around a defensemen in the faceoff circle before advancing on Pickering goalie Anthony Sciere and roofing the puck over his shoulder.

Isaac Larmand had a chance for an immediate second a minute later but couldn't beat Sciere – the Huskies ended the period down 4-1, but leading in shots on goal 15-12.

It was the Bowmaster show in the second. He scored his first at 2:26 on the powerplay after being found at the point by Oliver Tang and rifling the puck past Sciere. He scored again on the man advantage at 9:34, another rip from the point, to get the Huskies close, but Vasily Serov halted the momentum with the eventual game-winner 13:18 into the second.

The ice appeared tilted for much of the third and while Larmand ate into the deficit with his second of the season at 10:09, the Huskies couldn't find another way past Sciere, who finished the period with 15 saves, and the game with 40.

Huskies 3-0 North York

A 30-save shutout from Nadon backstopped the Huskies to a confidence-boosting 3-0 road win over the North York Rangers Oct. 12.

Ferrante helped himself to the game's first goal 7:56 into the first, assisted by Curtis Allen and Kaiden Thatcher. Bowmaster scored unassisted 3:47 into the second and completed the scoring midway through the third, notching a powerplay marker at 9:34, assisted by Larmand and Tang.

The win took the Huskies to ninth in the East Conference, with 10 points from 12 games (4-6-2 record). The team sits level on points with the Aurora Tigers, who hold the division's final playoff spot a month into the season.

The Huskies are back in action Friday on the road in Pickering before welcoming the Tigers to Minden Oct. 18, puck drop is 4 p.m. The Huskies play again at home Oct. 21, hosting the Toronto Patriots with a 7 p.m. puck drop.

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GO! HUSKIES GO!

Home of the Highland Storm

First star, Josh Scheffee, takes a draw in the Stars end. *Photo by Lisa Gervais.*

Highland Storm U18 crush Newcastle Stars 8–3

The U18 REP Haliburton TimberMart team lit up the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena Oct. 10 with a commanding 8–3 victory over the Newcastle Stars in their home opener.

The game got off to a fast start, with the Storm drawing first blood. At 11:53 of the first period, Chace Comer confidently buried a penalty shot to put the Storm up 1–0. But Newcastle responded quickly with two goals, taking a 2–1 lead into the first intermission.

The Storm regrouped and came out flying in the second. Caleb Manning tied the game midway through the frame, finishing off a feed from Josh Scheffee. Just 49 seconds later, Scheffee took matters into his own hands, scoring unassisted to give the Storm a 3–2 lead. He wasn't done. Scheffee struck again with 1:11 left in the period, notching another unassisted goal to make it 4–2.

Newcastle managed to claw one back before the break, cutting the lead to 4–3, but the third period belonged entirely to the Storm

They poured it on in the final frame. Jace Mills extended the lead with help from Scheffee and Manning, and just 52 seconds later, Luke Gruppe made it 6–3 off a slick play from Mason Gibson and Deagan Davison. Manning then buried his second of the game, assisted by Mills and Scheffee, and Mills capped the night with his own second tally, with assists going to Manning and Evan Shee.

Goaltender Nolan Taylor was solid between the pipes, making several key saves, particularly during Newcastle's early surge. *Submitted.*

STARS of the WEEK

JOSH SCHEFFEE
Scheffee was a force all night, tallying two goals and three assists.

CALEB MANNING
With two goals and two assists, Manning was a key playmaker and finisher for the Storm.

JACE MILLS
Mills contributed two clutch goals and an assist, helping seal the game in the third period.

Photos by Tim Tofflemire.

SCORE BOARD

Oct. 7 U15 REP Cheryl Smith RE/MAX vs Ennismore 1-1 T
Oct. 8 U13 REP Curry Chevrolet vs Sturgeon 4-2 W
U18 REP Haliburton TimberMart vs Lindsay 6-2 L
Oct. 9 U11 Rep Tom Prentice & Sons vs Sturgeon 5-4 L
U15 The Peppermill Steak & Pasta House vs U15 Pharmasave 5-4
Oct 10 U15 REP Cheryl Smith RE/MAX vs Lindsay 4-0 L
U18 REP Haliburton TimberMart vs Newcastle 8-3 W
Oct 11 U15 REP Cheryl Smith RE/MAX vs Newcastle 6-2 L
U11 REP Tom Prentice & Sons vs Kawartha 4-2 W
U11 LL Minden Carquest vs Kawartha 3-2 W
U13 LL Casey's Water Well & Geothermal vs Millbrook 6-5 W
U15 LL Minden Pharmasave vs Kawartha 4-2 W
U15 LL Pepper Mill Steak & Pasta House vs Mariposa 11-1 W
U18 LL vs Lindsay 5-5 T

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ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION EVENTS

Royal Canadian Legion - Branch 129 Haliburton

Mondays: Office open 9 a.m. to noon, clubroom closed. Bridge at 1 p.m.
Tuesdays: Games and cards night starting at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome. Fun darts at 7 p.m.
Wednesdays: Bid euchre 1 p.m. start, Remembrance Hall. Bingo, doors open at 5 p.m. with a 7 p.m. start time, Remembrance Hall. Snack bar available from 5:30 p.m. – French fries and hot dogs available while supplies last.
Thursdays: General meeting third Thursday of the month, ladies auxiliary meeting last Thursday of the month.
Fridays: meat draw, five draws, five prizes each draw, first draw at 4:30 p.m., last draw at 6:30 p.m., tickets $2 per draw. Paul Sisson, MC. Friday fun darts 4:30 p.m. onwards. 50/50 draw at 5 p.m., tickets are $1 and available in the clubroom. Board games for seniors from 10 a.m. to noon.
Saturdays: Open only for special events
Clubroom hours: Monday 3-9 p.m., Tues 5-9 p.m., Wed/Thurs 3-6 p.m., Fri 3-7 p.m., Saturday and Sunday closed.
Upcoming events: Drum circle Nov. 16, Dec. 7, Jan. 4, with a 1 p.m. start time.

Royal Canadian Legion - Mabel D. Brannigan Branch 636 Minden

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Friday Fish & Chips & Wings. Lunch 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and dinner 4-7 p.m.
Saturday all day breakfast 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with meat draws at 11 a.m.
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Monday: Euchre 1-3 p.m.
Thursday: Cribbage 1-3 p.m., Darts 7-9 p.m. and euchre 7-9 p.m.

Royal Canadian Legion - Branch 624 Wilberforce

Monday: open 7 to 10 p.m. Oct. 20 and 27 is darts $5/player 7 p.m.
Tuesday: closed, special events only
Wednesday: open 2 to 10 p.m. Oct. 22 and 29 Darts $4/player 2 p.m.; Quick Supper Menu changes weekly $10, 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Cribbage league 6:30 p.m. – sign up at the Legion
Thursday: open 2 to 10 p.m. Oct. 16, 23 and 30 Horseshoes $5/player 7 p.m. Oct. 23 HHHS Social Rec 10 a.m.
Friday: open 2 to 11 p.m. Oct. 17 and 31 is fish and chips, one piece $15, two piece $20 . Oct. 24 Community Care 55+ Lunch $17, at noon; Wings and Jam Session $15/pound from 5 to 8 p.m.
Saturday: open 2 to 9 p.m. Oct. 18, Pop-up darts supplies sale from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Horseshoes tournament at 11 a.m. cost is $20 per person; Open mic from 2-6 p.m.; Meat draw at 3 p.m.; Trivia night at 7 p.m., $5 per player
Oct. 25, Halloween karaoke party, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.
Sunday: closed, special events only. Oct. 19, LA Breakfast from 9-11 a.m. Cost is $10 per person.

EVENTS

Registration for youth curling at the Haliburton Curling Club is now open. The league begins Oct. 28 and runs every Tuesday through to March, from 4-6 p.m. Cost is $60 for the season and includes use of all basic equipment. Application forms available at J.D. Hodgson Elementary School or by contacting Russ Duhaime at 705-457-0497.

SIRCH Community Services is preparing for its annual Share the Warmth program, a County-wide initiative ensuring everyone has access to coats, boots, hats and other winter gear. Clean and gently-used gear can be dropped off between Oct. 9 and 30 in Haliburton at Foodland, Todd's Independent, Glecoff's, and Home Hardware, and in Minden at Dollo's Foodland, Home Hardware, St. Paul's Anglican Church and Valu-Mart. Giveaway events are at St. Paul's in Minden Nov. 8, SIRCH Bistro and Bakery in Haliburton Nov. 9 and the Thrift Warehouse in Bancroft Nov. 15.

Oct. 16, 1 to 3 p.m. Haliburton Highlands Writers and Editors Network meeting at the Minden branch of the Haliburton County Public Library. Gather and meet members, read stories, general news. For more information contact Kay Millard at 705-286-6635. Meetings run the third Thursday of each month.

Oct. 16, 7:30 p.m. CASC Ice Race Division is hosting three webinars teaching people all about ice racing. Taking place Oct. 16, Nov. 13 and Dec. 11 at 7:30 p.m. Learn how to get started, what cars make the cut, and why this winter sport is unlike anything else. For more information, visit www.casc.on.ca/ice-racing.

Oct. 18, noon to 6 p.m. Haliburton Highlands Brewing is hosting its pig roast fundraiser in support of Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation. Located at 15543 Hwy. 35 in Algonquin Highlands. All are welcome.

Oct. 18, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Soup supper at Haliburton United Church. Come out to meet new people or reminisce with old friends. All are welcome. The supper is free, though donations are welcome.

Oct. 21, 10 a.m. to noon. Representatives from Service Canada will be available at the Minden library to assist residents with services around employment insurance, Canada Pension Plan/old age security, the guaranteed income supplement, social insurance numbers, Canadian Dental Care plan, passport applications and more. Residents can book a 15-minute appointment by contacting 705-286-2491 or programs@haliburtonlibrary.ca. A second session will run from 12:30-2 p.m.

Oct. 21, 5:30 to 7 p.m. Panel discussion 'leveraging local: the business of sponsorship' at The Link in Haliburton (5152 County Road 21). Featuring speakers Amanda Schultz, Nicole Baumgartner, Nicole Marshall, Nataly Mylan and Dennis Pennie. Find out why sponsorships are a viable marketing strategy. Register at ebarlow@haliburtoncdc.ca.

Oct. 21, 7 p.m. Belinda Wilson will be at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre for a presentation about Canadians on the battlefield in Europe during the Second World War. There will also be a history exhibit about Canadians in Normandy on D-Day in 1944. All are welcome.

What's on

Sir Sam's celebrates holiday

Sir Sam's Ski/Ride welcomed the public to its annual fall festival Oct. 11. The Eagle Lake property hosted hundreds over the Thanksgiving long weekend, with free kids activities and games, live music, complimentary tunnel lift rides, community BBQ and more.

Above: Bradley and Sam Peer with their daughters Scarlett and Hailey at the petting zoo, where Katelyn Dovell introduces them to a quail. *Photos by Wendy Evenden.*

Haliburton County Community Services and ID Clinic

HALIBURTON LEGION
719 MOUNTAIN ST,
HALIBURTON

10 A.M. - 3 P.M.
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30

DROP IN - NO APPOINTMENTS NEEDED

Service Canada
- SOCIAL INSURANCE NUMBER
- PENSIONS (CPP, OAS, GIS, CPP DISABILITY)
- CANADIAN DENTAL CARE PLAN
- EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
- CANADA DISABILITY BENEFIT

WILL NOT INCLUDE PASSPORT SERVICES

ServiceOntario
- HEALTH CARD SERVICES
- PHOTO ID
- PROGRAM INFORMATION

- MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION
- MEALS ON WHEELS
- COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

- SUPPORT FOR YOUTH 12-25
- YOUTH SERVICES
- EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT

- SERVICES FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH A DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY AND THEIR FAMILIES

- HEPATITIS C TESTING AND TREATMENT
- PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORTS

PARAMEDIC
- VITAL CHECKS
- PROGRAM INFORMATION

Kawartha Lakes Jump In
- HOUSING/RENTAL INFORMATION
- COMMUNITY OUTREACH
- LIFE STABILIZATION
- CHILDCARE FEE SUBSIDY
- CHILDCARE WAIT LIST

COMMUNITY LEGAL CLINIC
- PROBLEMS WITH OW/ODSP OR DENIED ODSP
- PROBLEMS WITH YOUR LANDLORD
- DENIED CANADA PENSION PLAN DISABILITY
- INJURED AT WORK
- FIRED OR DENIED EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE OR HAVING PROBLEMS AT WORK, INCLUDING WORKPLACE SEXUAL HARASSMENT
- HUMAN RIGHTS

FUEL FOR WARMTH
- FUEL SERVICE PROGRAM INFORMATION

FLEMING *(TENTATIVE)*
- EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
- SKILLS TRAINING
- PROGRAM INTAKES

FLEMING *(TENTATIVE)*
- ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL DIPLOMA (OSSD) COMPLETION
- LITERACY AND ESSENTIAL SKILLS BUILDING
- PATHWAYS TO POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION OR TRAINING PROGRAMS
- CAREER AND LIFE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Road Ahead
- COUNSELLING AND THERAPY
- SUPPORT WITH ADDICTIONS & SUBSTANCE USE
- HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION
- MEDICATION SUPPORT
- ACCESS TO OTHER SUPPORTS INCLUDING PSYCHIATRY

Rotary
- GOOD FOOD BOX

YWCA
- RESOURCES, SUPPORT AND CRISIS SERVICES

Job QUEST
- EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
- REFERRALS

- BIRTH CERTIFICATE FEE WAIVER
- PROGRAM INTAKES
- NALOXONE TRAINING

PARN
- HIV SUPPORT SERVICES
- HARM REDUCTION
- GBMSM PROGRAM
- RAINBOW YOUTH

- HYDRO HELP (BRING HYDRO BILL)
- TAX FILING (BRING ID, T4S, ETC.)
- ENERGY SAVINGS INFO
- HOME HEATING HELP
- FOOD BANK INFORMATION

- LIBRARY SERVICES
- TECH SUPPORT
- PROGRAMMING INFORMATION

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jandmfrost@outlook.com

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The parade is proudly brought to you by the Downtown Haliburton Business Association and the Haliburton & District Lions Club

Highlander classifieds

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Highlander classifieds

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FOR SALE – GUILFORD FIREWOOD – Nicely cut and split, ready to burn. $130. per face cord – pick up. Delivery available, call 705-754-3034

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FOR SALE - Lightly usedT264 TYM tractor with loader and mower Ser.# T264S03295. 250 hours. Very good condition. $22,000 for all. Please call 705 286 4924 or Cell: 705 455-3044

FOR RENT

FOR RENT – Long Term Cottage Rental, Haliburton Lake. Available Oct 1st to May 1st. Enjoy cozy lakefront fall and winter living. 3 Bedrooms, 1 Bath, open concept living/dining + Bunkie for storage & space. $2,100. Month, all inclusive (utilities, heat, internet) Private waterfront, dock, firepit and stunning lake view. Maintained winter road, only 2.5km off Harburn Road. Contact 705-854-0336.

FOR RENT - Furnished, open concept, 2 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath single-family home on the river in downtown Minden. Available November 1 until June 15, 2026. $2150/mth plus utilities. Showings conducted on pre-approved application basis. Contact rentalsminden@gmail.com

FOR RENT - New large, bright, two bedroom apartment in Gooderham. Second floor. Open concept with large custom kitchen, AC and laundry. Large private deck off main living space. Parking included. Access to yard surrounding building. Walking distance to public beach. No smoking. $2,000 month 416-407-7305 or scrichton44@gmail.com

FOR RENT

FOR RENT - New 1 bedroom apartment in Gooderham Second floor with custom kitchen, AC, laundry, open concept. Parking included. Access to yard surrounding building. Walking distance to public beach. No smoking. $1,500 month. 416-407-7305 or scrichton44@gmail.com

FOR RENT - Commercial space in Gooderham, Main Floor over 1,000 sq ft. Lots of storefront windows. Will custom build or divide space if required. Parking included. Access to yard surrounding building. Walking distance to public beach. No smoking. Price to be determined on space. 416-407-7305 or scrichton44@gmail.com

WORK WANTED

CONSTRUCTION WORKER looking for work. Familiar with all aspects of construction. Mason by trade. Available for weekends or rainy days or full time, Call Shannon 306-317-7073 (Oct 9, 16) Shannon Worth

HELP WANTED

MARK'S RESTAURANT - looking for a Server, part time, must be able to work evenings & weekends. Please call Wilson at 705-286-1818 or drop resume off at the Restaurant.

WANTED

J & D TOWING & SERVICE STATION - will pay top dollar for scrap cars. We also provide towing services as well as flat bed. Call Jim 705-447-2113

WANTED

WANTED – Scrap metal, fridges, stoves, any metal. We will pick up. Please call 519-820-5701 this is a Gooderham phone number.

EVENT

EVENT - STAINED GLASS WORKSHOPS from beginner up. Learn the art of Stained Glass in one or two day classes.. Call Tom at 705-286-3628

NOTICE

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS - Sundays - 10:30 am at St. Anthony's, 27 Victoria Street Haliburton. Wednesdays - 7:00 PM at Highland Hills United Church, 21 Newcastle St. in Minden - rear door. Thinking about alcohol. Thinking about stopping. We've been there. We can help!

WANTED

WANTED ANTIQUES
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Email your resume today to info@walkershvac.com

We thank all applicants for their interest, however only those candidates selected for interviews will be contacted.

HALIBURTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Haliburton County Public Library is recruiting for:

SYSTEMS & TECHOLOGY COORDINATOR
(full-time, 35 hours per week, $32.29 - $37.77)

This vacant position is responsible for managing the library's online presence as guided by the strategic plan, including recommending, implementing and managing electronic resources and the library's automated systems; maintaining the library's website; providing library staff and patrons with digital literacy skills training, and resolving technical issues across the library system in collaboration with County IT. This hourly range for this full-time position is $32.29 - $37.77 (70 hours biweekly).

PUBLIC SERVICES MANAGER/DEPUTY CEO
(contract, 72 hours biweekly, $90,234.28 - $105,561.34)

This position is responsible for providing day-to-day leadership and management of the library, including all aspects of branch operations. This position supervises ongoing staff development, performance management, and provides support and direction for implementation of high-quality service delivery. This position supports the CEO as required. This temporary contract is available January 6 – December 23, 2026.

Visit the County of Haliburton's Careers page at www.haliburtoncounty.ca/careers for more information, and a detailed job description. Applications should identify position and PDF resumes and cover letters should be sent to info@haliburtonlibrary.ca no later than **October 27, 2025, at noon.**

We thank all who apply for this position. Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The County of Haliburton is committed to an inclusive, barrier-free environment. If you require accommodation options to ensure full and equal access during the recruitment process, please contact Human Resources at shume@haliburtoncounty.ca.

In accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, the information gathered will be used solely for the purpose of job selection.

Highlander classifieds

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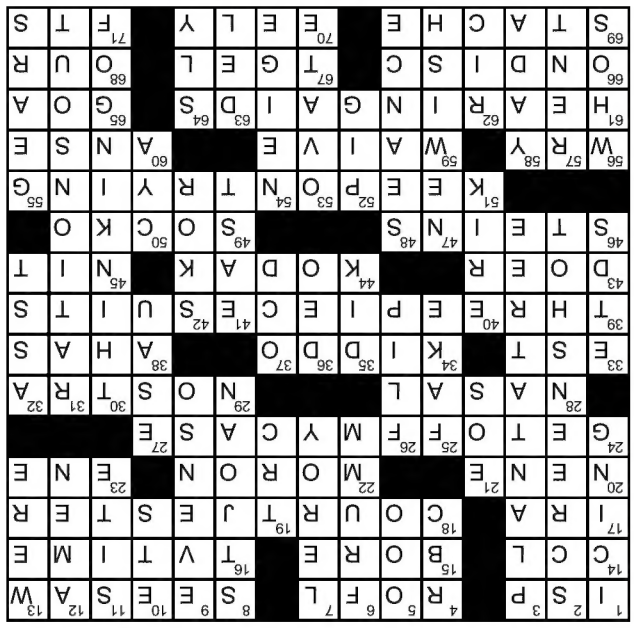
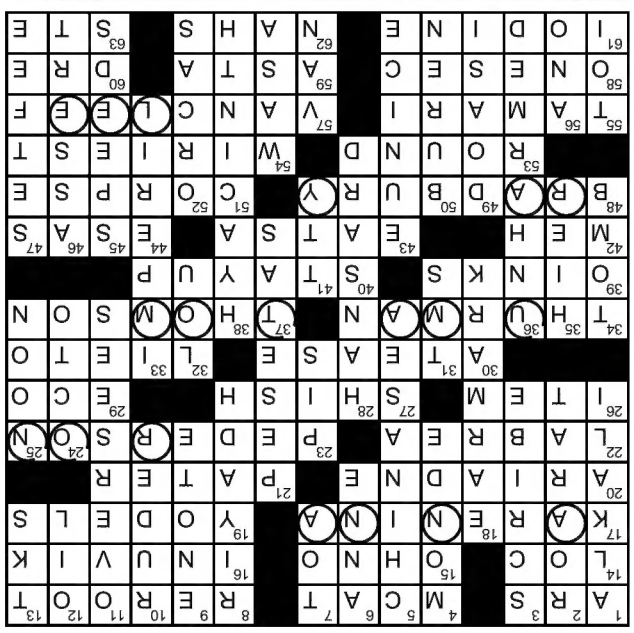
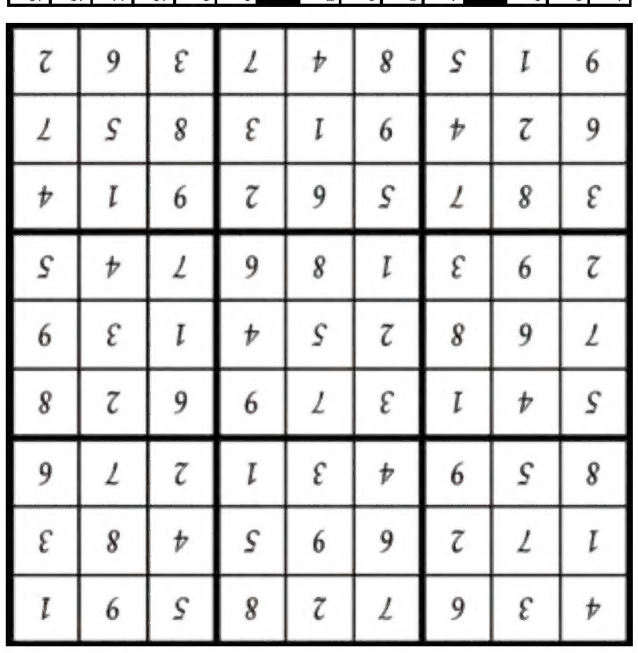
LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS



THIS WEEK'S SOLUTIONS





OBITUARIES

In Loving Memory of

Doreen Edith Lemon
(nee Clarkson)

Passed away peacefully at Victoria Manor, Lindsay on Tuesday, October 7, 2025. At the age of 91.

Beloved wife of the late Bruce Lemon (2018). Dear mother of Colleen of Haliburton and Ross of Minden. Loving grandma of Alley Clement (Brandon), Amanda Clement and great grandmother of Theodore and Bruce. Dear sister of Edgar (Doris) (both deceased), George (Pat-deceased), Dorothy (Lewis) Scott (both deceased) and sister-in-law of Marge (Jim) Hamill (both deceased). Fondly remembered by her nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Friends are invited to visit the family at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Bobcaygeon Rd., P.O. Box 427, Minden KoM 2Ko on Tuesday, October 14, 2025 from 12:00 o'clock noon until the time of the Service to Celebrate Doreen's Life at 1:00 pm. Reception to follow in the Monk-Cray Family Centre at the funeral home. Interment will be held at the Old St. John's Cemetery, 953334 7th Line, Mono on Wednesday, October 15, 2025 at 1:00 pm.

Memorial Donations to the Alzheimer Society would be appreciated by the family.

www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

In Loving Memory of

Jaqueline "Jackie" Henselwood
(nee Grant)

Passed away peacefully at Toronto General Hospital on Thursday, September 18, 2025, at the age of 78.

It was Jackie's wish for cremation and Memorial Gathering to Celebrate Her Life will be held at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Bobcaygeon Rd., P.O. Box 427, Minden KoM 2Ko on Monday, October 20, 2025 from 1:00 until 3:00 pm.

Memorial Donations to the Kidney Foundation (cheques only) would be appreciated by the family.

www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

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In Loving Memory of

Carol Ann Sidsworth
(nee Woods)

Passed away peacefully with grace at the Haliburton Hospital on October 2, 2025 at the age of 90.

Dear mother of Paul (deceased), Phil and his wife Elaine and Mark. Loving grandma Carol to Ryan (Denise), Michael and great grandma of Brooklyn and Leanne. Predeceased by her brother Norm and by her sister Beryl. Fondly remembered by many nieces and nephews.

In keeping with Carol's wishes, cremation has taken place and a Celebration of her Life will be held on a later date.

Arrangements entrusted to the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario KoM 2Ko.

www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

In Loving Memory of

Jake Stinson

Passed away peacefully at the Haliburton Hospital with his family at his side on Friday, October 10, 2025, at the age 75.

Beloved husband of Diane for 55 years. Loving father to Tracey, Vanessa (Mike) and Veronica (Justin). Loving Papa to Jake (Krystal), Brooke (Braydon), Savanah (Cooper), Cadence (Brayden), Jordan (Liam), Anthony, Gabriella, and Dominic. Survived by his beloved sister, Margie and sister-in-law, Jackie (Jim). Fondly remembered by his nieces and nephews.

Family and friends are invited to a Celebration of Jake's Life at the Minden and District Lions Club Hall, 166 Bobcaygeon Road, Minden on Saturday, October 25, 2025 from 1:00 until 4:00 pm.

Memorial Donations to the Hospital for Sick Children would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario KoM 2Ko.

www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

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HELP WANTED

Haliburton Community Housing Corporation (HCHC)
Board of Directors Opportunity

HCHC is seeking an individual to serve as a Director on the Corporation's Board.

If you are a community minded individual and believe in the value of affordable housing, please consider submitting a resume to join our caring compliment. The average commitment is approximately 3-5 hours per month depending on your personal level of involvement.

HCHC is particularly interested in hearing from people with knowledge, experience and/or interest in any of the following areas:

- Operations / Maintenance
- Finance / Legal
- Construction / Engineering
- Affordable Housing

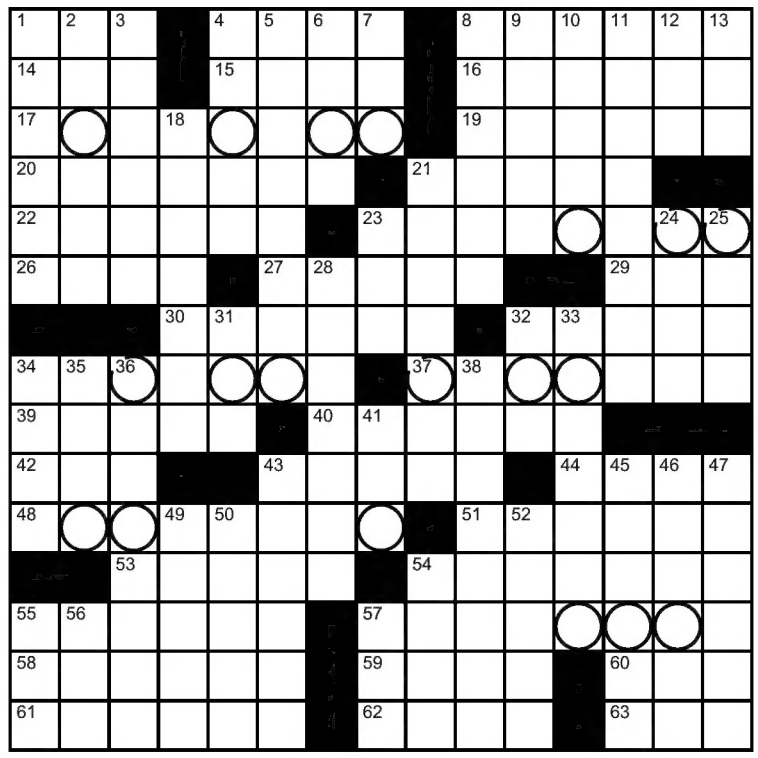
If you would like to consider applying for this volunteer position we would like to hear from you by October 31, 2025.

Please email your resume or letter to Glenn Scott at:
president@haliburtonhousing.com

Highlander puzzles

Middle Names

by Barbara Olson
© ClassiCanadian Crosswords



Across

1 "___ Poetica" (Horace work)
4 Aspiring GP's exam
8 Survive being transplanted
14 ___ cit. (where cited, in a footnote)
15 "That's horrible!"
16 N.W.T.'s northernmost town
17 Tolstoy heroine
19 Calls out to Swiss herders
20 Goddess ditched by Theseus
21 Word form for "father"
22 ___ Tar Pits (fossil-rich site)
23 Canadian comedian who performed with "MADtv" and The Second City
26 Agenda listing
27 ___-kebab
29 Enviro- cousin
30 "Stop saluting, soldiers"
32 Be untruthful with
34 "Kill Bill" actress
37 Canadian landscape artist and colleague of Carr
39 Talks like a pig
40 Ignore one's bedtime
42 Shrugger's assessment
43 ___ hole in (erodes)
44 Those, to José
48 "Fahrenheit 451" writer
51 Body of crime literature?
53 Like King Arthur's table
54 Most lean and lanky
55 Wheat-free soy sauce
57 "Bad" actor in "The Good, the Bad and the Ugly"
58 "Just a jiff!"
59 Whodunit terrier
60 Rap Dr. without a cure
61 Its symbol is I
62 Slangy refusals
63 Office tower room: Abbr.

Down

1 High-pH substance
2 Respond to a knee-slapper
3 Old-timey writer
4 Paris paper le ___
5 "North" or "South" Asian waters
6 Murray with the most Junos ever
7 Ode opener, often
8 Saudi capital city
9 Virtual sticky message
10 Less mannerly
11 Acts as foreman
12 Mechanic's shirt stain
13 "Thx" alternative
18 Set aside for a specific purpose
21 Coins that once bore Franco's face
23 Eyes who tail, for short?
24 Prefix with -pus or -pod
25 Busy time in a cafeteria
28 Parliamentary record book
31 Regd. brand symbols
32 Funny Costello
33 Put in danger
34 Mummy's home
35 Lundi, to mardi
36 Without a scratch
38 Colourful lily relative
41 Communication syst. for the deaf
43 Carol Burnett character
45 Sailor's knots?
46 State with confidence
47 Price with no wiggle room
49 "___ say!"(parent's demand)
50 Abigail Van ___, of "Dear Abbey" fame
52 Black-and-white beasts that breach
54 "There once ___ ..." (limerick line)
55 To you, in Toulouse
56 Span of 365 días
57 Moving vehicle

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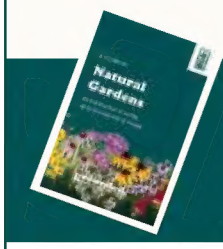

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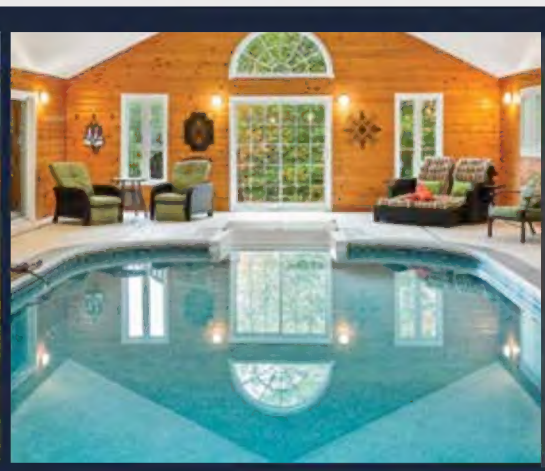
21



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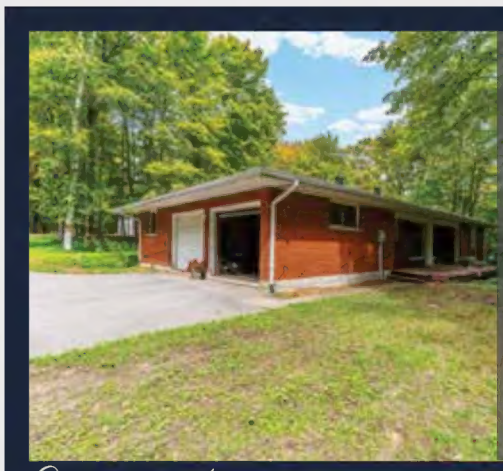

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